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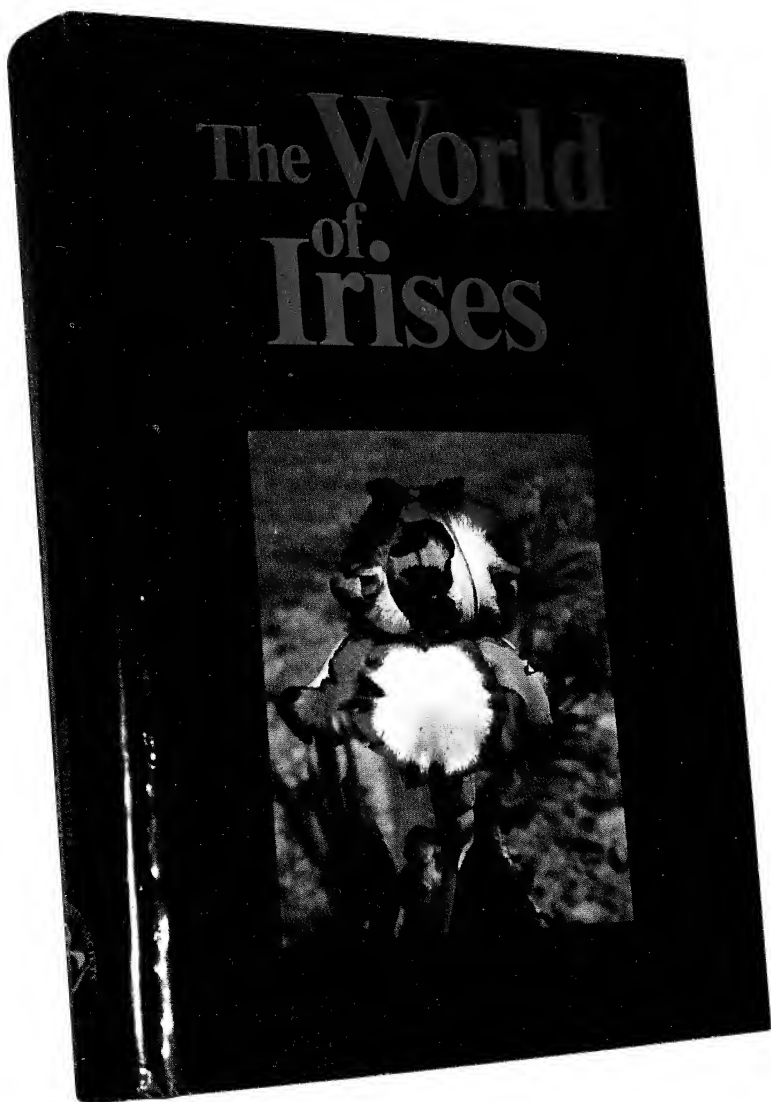
January 2002

A M E R I C A N

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AIS Bulletin

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The American Iris Society

Officers & Committee Chairpeople

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED February 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the Iris.

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President's Message

by Terry Aitken, Washington State

A

FTER THIRTY YEARS IN THE AIS, INCLUDING FIVE YEARS ON THE *Bulletin* and several more years on the Board, I feel like the American Iris Society is my extended family. We are a highly diverse group of people with an enormous amount of talent. I have observed a healthy sense of humor, great caring for the membership's concerns, and a Board who listens. I am honored to work with these people who serve the membership so well. We all want to see our membership grow. We will accomplish this by sharing the wonders that the iris world has to offer. We want to be inspired by new crosses, new colors, superior plants, new frontiers and new friends. We need to cultivate and nurture the people and plants that have already left their mark on the history books of the iris world. With our great diversity, we need to be all things to all people to the best of our ability.



Terry Aitken, AIS President

Our time is finite! We live in a society which has less and less "spare time." Finding volunteers to take on assignments is a challenge all over the country. In most clubs and Regions that I have observed, 10% of the members do 90% of the work. Reward your workers. They are the lifeblood of our society. To encourage new members, it is important that every meeting provide educational information, aesthetic inspiration, value in terms of door prizes and, always, good fellowship. You want both your "novice" and "established" members to come back for more. Plan on it, at your shows, your sales and your meetings!


In my new role as president, I see a need to promote the iris world beyond the boundaries of AIS. Much of this will be accomplished via email and with the AIS website. We are now able to communicate with our worldwide iris friends in minutes and indulge the iris interests of our fellow gardeners around the globe. In our rapidly changing world,

much AIS business and communication will be transitioning to computers and email. Interesting challenges lie ahead.

With this *Bulletin*, we have a new editor. Bruce Filardi has been working with us for several years, first on the international front, then in translations of articles from European hybridizers, then proofing and writing himself. Bruce has been a major player in our publication team during the past year as assistant editor, and I anticipate a smooth transition into his new role. Please help Bruce make this the publication that you think it should be.

I've had a long email discussion with Bill Mull about the AIS slide programs. He tells me that there was a tremendous demand last year for "NEW INTRODUCTIONS" slide programs, to the point that he regularly had 6 sets out at a time. So he plans to make 8 sets this year. This strikes me as a golden opportunity for all you hybridizers out there to get 35mm slides to Bill as soon as possible. He will take care of duplicating. He tells me that he orders about 500 at a time from a source that does high quality reproduction at a good price.

News from the Storefront! In October Nancy Pocklington became quite ill with a lung infection. She was in and out of the hospital for over a month as doctors tried to identify the problem. Nancy is now making a slow recovery involving rehabilitation. Irv managed to keep things moving well into November with the help of family and iris friends, but it became apparent that Nancy and Irv would not be able to continue with the storefront operation. They have returned to a retirement center in Illinois near Nancy's daughter. The call went out to find a new volunteer to deal with this major task. Almost over my shoulder came a response from Kay and John Ludi (RVP, Region 13), indicating that they would take a hard look at it. After much discussion, they agreed to take on the task. Following Board approval, the storefront (23,000 pounds on 11 pallets, a computer, 2 desks and some shelving units) was loaded on a large truck headed northwest to Portland. It has just arrived, and the Ludis hope to have everything up and running before the New Year.

A special vote of thanks to our outgoing president, Clarence Mahan: for his wisdom in leading us through some difficult situations during his tenure, and for his compassionate guidance of the iris community for the past three years. 

Until further notice, the AIS asks members to send materials for the Historian to the AIS Library address (7711 Pries Drive NE, Salem OR 97303-7842).

Editor's Message

by Bruce Filardi, Oregon

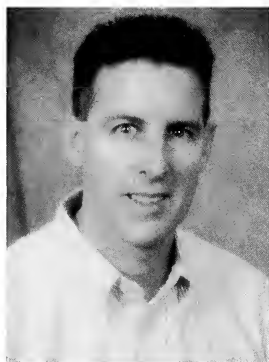
IT IS A PLEASURE TO ASSUME THE OFFICE OF EDITOR OF THE *Bulletin of the AIS*. I have thoroughly enjoyed my increasing responsibilities while helping Terry Aitken throughout the last few years. Irises are my all-consuming passion, and working on the *Bulletin* is an extremely pleasant way to spend my time – at least when there are no irises in bloom!

I look forward to receiving suggestions and articles from the readers. I am open to change and improvement – but I can't read minds! If you have an idea, please let me know. E-mail and US mail are generally the best ways to contact me.

I'll keep my initial Editor's Message short. However, I would particularly like to acknowledge an error in the last issue of the *Bulletin*: I am very happy to say that Charlene Strawn is in good health and good spirits. She wrote: "I haven't kicked the bucket yet and am actually a LONG way from it unless a truck hits me. I was somehow included in your last *In Memoriam*. Please print a little note that I am really FINE, on this side of the vale." Thank you, Charlene, for the good news and the friendly note. We apologize sincerely for the mistake.


Jill Copeland, President of the Society for Japanese Irises, asked us to mention that the *Bulletin* of October, 2000, listed an incorrect hybridizer for BELLENDER BLUE on page 62. This beautiful blue winner of the Payne Medal is another outstanding creation from the hybridizing team of Bob Bauer and John Coble.

We received a few comments regarding the article which discussed problems of soft rot in the South. Our Scientific Editor stressed the need to underline the fact that copper can be a dangerous substance and



Bruce Filardi, Editor

that “.... copper poisons the soil.... That is why the treatment was recommended for greenhouse use and not for soil.” Some members of Region 24 objected to the portrayal of their Region. One reader wrote: “This article does nothing for promoting irises in Region 24, Alabama and Mississippi.” and “.... There is no such place as Jacksonville, Mississippi. There is Jackson, Mississippi, and that society disbanded many years ago, not from rot but from aged members.”

I'm glad that readers actually read the articles! I thank you for your comments, and I look forward to frequent communication with AIS members as time goes on. 

Schedule of AIS Conventions

2002: 24-29 April; Memphis, TN; Memphis Marriott; 2625 Thousand Oaks Blvd; Memphis, TN 38118; (901) 362-6200
Chairman: Elke Longworth; 1530 McKnight Loop; Mason, TN 38049; (901) 867-0200

2003: 12-17 May; Fredericksburg, VA; Holiday Inn Select; 2801 Plank Road; Fredericksburg, VA 22401; (800) 682-1049
Chairman: Clarence Mahan; 7311 Churchill Road; McLean, VA 22101; (703) 893-8526

2004: 19-24 April; Fresno, CA; Radisson Hotel; 2233 Ventura Street; Fresno, CA 93721; (559) 268-1000
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2005: St. Louis, MO; May
Chairman: Riley Probst; 418 N. Van Buren; St. Louis, MO 63122; (314) 822-2485

2006: Portland, OR; 22-27 May
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2007: Oklahoma City, OK; May
Chairman: F. W. McVicker; Route 3, Box 10; Kingfisher, OK 73750; (405) 374-3115

Youth Views

by Jean E. Morris, Missouri

Essay Topic Announced


"Why, when and where did you become interested in irises?" This is the 2002 topic for the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest. The contest is sponsored by the AIS Foundation and there will be two prizes of \$100 each for the writers of the winning essays in two age categories: 12 and under, and 13 through 18.

To begin your essay think about why, when, and where you learned about and became interested in irises, and develop a paragraph for each. Next, write a short introductory paragraph at the beginning and add a conclusion paragraph at the end. It is best to check your spelling and grammar before typing or recopying your final version. An adult or your computer may be helpful for technical assistance, but we ask that parents not interfere with their young person's creative efforts.

Send your essay of 500 words or less along with your name, address, and date of birth to Claire Honkanen, PO Box 235, Isle of Palms, SC 29451-0235. It must be received by March 1, 2002.

We would like to hear from youths of all ages. Spending a small amount of time sharing the story of your iris experiences could make you \$100 richer, so don't forget to enter this contest. Good luck to all!

Reminder to All AIS Members

See the October 2001 *Bulletin* for details, and send in your Clarke Cosgrove nominations by January 31 to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021. Your support and encouragement of our AIS youth members by writing nominations for this award will be very much appreciated. 

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International News

by George & Margaret Sutton, California, and Bruce Filardi, Oregon

German Iris Competition 2001

from Gisela Dathe

In Germany, we have TB iris judging in the second and third year after planting. This year's Competition, the last to be held in Frankfurt's Palmengarten, produced the following results:

Second year judging (third-year plants):

- 71.3 points sdg. TB9512, S light blue/white blend, F medium blue, large tattered spoon **Robert Stetson II, Denver/USA**
- 71.1 " sdg. 06-LM-98, S cream white, veined darker, F light violet w/edge of S color **L. Muska, Slovakia**
- 68.1 " H.C. STETSON, pale pink self, heavily ruffled **Robert Stetson II, Denver/USA**
- 66.4 " sdg. 93-0045-AM, ice white self **Anton Mego, Slovakia**
- 65.2 " sdg. 07-LM-98, S delicate salmon pink, F violet red w/ edge of S color **L. Muska, Slovakia**
- 64.6 " sdg. RS94K1, light blue self, beards bright orange with blue horn **Robert Stetson II, Denver/USA**
- 63.2 " sdg. MB 8/90 variegata, S brownish dark yellow, F velvety burgundy red brown **Manfred Beer, Germany**

First year judging (second-year plants):

- 67.3 points sdg. 93-0038-AM, S creamy white, veined violet blue, frilled gold; F velvety dark violet with thin edge of light violet **Anton Mego, Slovakia**
- 67.1 " ANDALOU, variegata, S light yellow, F velvety red brown **Richard Cayeux, France**
- 66.8 " BEAKY WIT, S light yellow, F creamy white w/ edge of S color **Ladislav Muska, Slovakia**
- 61.1 " ELEGABALL, orchid self, beards orange with blue orchid horns **Ladislav Muska, Slovakia**
- 60.7 " FRISON ROCHE, ruffled pure white self, beards ivory **Richard Cayeux, France**
- 60.6 " sdg. (no number) light blue violet self **Gina Gührn, Germany**

Congratulations to all hybridizers on their success – and good luck!

This was the last time the Competition will be held in the Palmengarten in Frankfurt. All irises for future competitions will be moved this year to the Botanic Garden at Nymphenburg in Munich, where the next judging will take place in 2003.

For more information, please contact Gisela Dathe, Tannenring 57, D-65207 Wiesbaden, Germany; FAX 0049-6127-998517; e-mail <WGDathe998@aol.com>.

Russian Awards 2001

from Sergey Loktev

The Awards of the Russian Iris Society have been announced for 2001.

Only two High Awards were given, to:

SIMFONIYA (A. Volfovich-Moler '92)

VOSTOCHNY ORNAMENT (A. Volfovich-Moler '92)

One AM was presented:

VDOKHNOVENIYE (A. Volfovich-Moler '92)

HM's were awarded to: GRAF (S. Loktev '99), ISPOVED (A. Volfovich-Moler '99), MARTOVSKI SNEG (V. Koroliov '95), MECHTA YELENY (V. Koroliov '97), RASSVET (V. Koroliov '99), VECHERNEYE PLATIYE (A. Volfovich-Moler '99), VINNAYA YAGODA (S. Loktev '99), VOZDUSHNY ZMEY (S. Loktev '99), and YESAUL (V. Koroliov '99).

Editor's Note: Congratulations to all the award winners! We are particularly impressed by the performance of the iris of Mr. Volfovich-Moler, who lives in Uzbekistan, far from any other hybridizers.

The 2002 Yearbook of the British Iris Society:

American members of the BIS were happy to receive their copies of the *BIS Yearbook* in mid-December. The cover features a beautiful photo of the 2001 Dykes Medal winner, DARLEY DALE (Dodsworth '98), a fine ruffled white with yellow beards. This publication contains numerous interesting and worthwhile articles. Readers who would like to know more about purchasing a copy may contact Clive Russell for further information: cliveruss@aol.com.

From the Official Bulletin of the Iris Society of Southern Africa:

Growing Spuria in South Africa, by Allan Tait


Spuria iris is a relatively unknown group that is not commonly grown in South Africa, unlike the bearded iris, Louisiana iris or even the Siberians, which are widely grown... In South Africa their growing cycle starts in March. They are lush, and green throughout the winter, being remarkably frost resistant... Transplanting, and division must be done at the end of the dormant season, toward the end of February and the beginning of March... Unlike other members of the genus their rhizomes must be planted approximately two centimeters below the surface of the soil.

Show Report 2000, by Glynn Middlewick

...The open classes had the most exhibits, and amongst these the most outstanding were the tall bearded irises this year. A...white tall bearded, PIETY...not only won the best white on show and the best tall bearded, but also the best iris on show... The best yellow iris on show...(was) WELL ENDOWED... FRENCH GOWN...won the award for best plicata on show... The best Louisiana (was)... BOUYANT... The best Spuria on show was once again ARCHIE OWEN...

International Conventions:

England: The BIS 80th Birthday Convention is getting nearer every day! We have convention facilities and comfortable accommodation in the heart of Bristol, a historic city. Perhaps overseas visitors will wish to arrive earlier than the convention dates (24th - 27th May 2002) to go to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show? Ask us for help. There's also a group of historic irises... other displays, enthralling speakers and entertainment for after-dinner evenings. For further details, contact the registrar: Cy Bartlett, Old Mill House, Shurton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 1QG, England.

Australia: The West Australian Iris Society will be hosting the Australian Convention in Perth from October 20th to 26th, 2003. If you wish to be on our mailing list for all information send your name and address to the Secretary: Mrs. Jo Tunney, 5 Glen Avon Street, Lesmurdie 6076, West Australia 

How to Register and Introduce an Iris

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises except bulbous irises.

Registration

1. Write to the AIS Registrar, Keith Keppel, P. O. Box 18154, Salem, OR 97305, for a registration blank, enclosing check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. The fee is \$7.50 per registration, or \$10.00 if transferring a name from a previous registration.

2. Select a name which has not previously been used and submit it for approval. To determine availability of name, please refer to all ten-year *Check Lists* (beginning 1939) and annual *Registrations and Introductions* booklets (beginning 2000). (Preliminary checking can also be done on the internet: www.irisregister.com.) Please also suggest alternate names. A name is not registered until the registration application has been completed and approved and a certificate of registration returned to you.

3. Names should follow the rules established by the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants. Rules are subject to change, but at the present time the following names will not be permitted:

a. Names of living persons without their written consent, or names of recently (10 years) deceased persons without permission of next of kin or other authority.

b. Personal names containing the following forms of address or their equivalent in another language: Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.

c. Names including symbols, numerals, non-essential punctuation or abbreviations.

d. Names beginning with the articles "a" or "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.

e. Names in Latin or in latinized form.

f. Slight variation of a previously registered name.

g. Names in excess of three words, ten syllables, or thirty letters.

h. Names containing the word "iris" or "flag" or the species name of any recognized species of Iris, or formed wholly by recombining parts of the parental species' names.

i. Names containing the hybridizer's name in possessive form.

j. Names which exaggerate or may become inaccurate (e.g. Heaviest Lace, Tallest Black), or which are composed solely of adjectives which could be construed as a simple description (e.g. Pale Blue, Ruffled).


k. Names translated from the original language; they should be transliterated as necessary.

4. Previously registered names may be re-used only if (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in the parentage of later registrations, and (c) a statement of permission is obtained from the prior registrant.

5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was not listed as a parent in registrations. *It is the obligation of the registrant to furnish the registrar with acceptable proof.*

Introduction

Introduction is the offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists, and advertisements in the *American Iris Society Bulletin* are acceptable means of introduction. It is a requisite of awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. A variety is not eligible for listing on the awards ballot until after it has been recorded as introduced by the Registrar-Recorder. Send the Registrar a copy of your list, catalog or advertisement by first class mail so verification of introduction can be made. Internet webpage introduction will also be acceptable, provided that the introducer sends a printed copy of the webpage to the registrar by first class mail.

The Registrar will supply a sample application form upon receipt of a stamped self-addressed envelope. 

American Iris Society Convention Registration Form

The Blues and Other Colors

Memphis, TN, April 24 – 29, 2002

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country (if other than US): _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Number of Guests: _____ Check Enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Memphis Area Iris Society

VISA/ MasterCard #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Names for the Convention Badges (please print):

Full Registration

(3 days of Garden Tours, Welcoming and Awards Dinner Banquets).

Please indicate number of guests below:

_____ \$195.00 per guest if postmarked before March 1, 2002

_____ \$210.00 per guest if postmarked March 1 – April 1

_____ \$235.00 per guest if postmarked after April 1, 2002

Walk-up Registration will be \$250.00

Partial Registration Options

Please indicate number of guests below:

_____ \$100.00 per guest for one day registration fee (includes goody bag, tour, lunch and meetings for that day)

_____ \$150.00 per guest for two day registration fee

_____ \$150.00 Youth Registration

_____ \$ 35.00 per guest Welcoming Banquet only

_____ \$40.00 per guest Awards Banquet only

_____ \$50.00 Bus Tour only per day

Absolutely no refunds for prepaid registration fees after April 1

_____ **Graceland Tour:** April 27, 2002 = \$75.00 prepaid

Deadline: April 1, 2002 (Includes: Transportation, Dinner, and full tour of facilities)

Garden judges' training will be available at the Memphis Botanic Garden on Saturday, April 27th. But space is limited, and you **MUST** send in your reservation with your Convention registration! See article immediately following this registration form for details.

Please send registration to:

Earle N. Billings; AIS Convention Registrar; 6751 Wild Berry Lane; Memphis, TN 38119 - 5645

Garden Judges Training - Botanic Garden

There will be garden judges training available at the Memphis Botanic Garden on Saturday, April 27th, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. There will be three two-hour sessions, with groups being taught by Hooker Nichols, Jerry Wilhoit, or Melody Wilhoit. In order that people can see and hear easily, each group will be limited to a maximum of 30 people (for a total of 90 people), so get your registration in early if you would like to participate! The first 90 people to request training will be accepted, and your reservation will be acknowledged.

In addition to the above, there will be two other judges training sessions offered at the convention hotel, on Sunday evening, with unlimited seating. One will be on Medians, taught by Marky Smith, of Yakima, Washington. The other one, "What Every Judge Should Know" will be presented by past president Clarence Mahan.

Those people not participating in the garden judges training at the Botanic Garden on Saturday will have the option of touring the guest plants, the Iris Show which will also be at this Garden, or returning to the hotel early. The Botanic Garden will also be part of Monday's tour schedule, so those participating in the garden judges training will still have an opportunity to see the guest plantings.

Again, you must register for the Judges Training at the Memphis Botanical Garden when you send in your Convention Registration. First come, first served! So get your registration in early!

AIS Convention

Hotel Information

Headquarters for the 2002 AIS Convention is the Marriott EAST, 2625 Thousand Oaks Blvd, Memphis, TN 38118; tel: (901) 362-6200

The Hotel will provide free shuttle service from the airport, if called on the courtesy phone in the luggage arrival center. They are about 10-15 minutes away.

The rooms are \$89.00 for 1-4 persons and have all the amenities of a large fine hotel.

The Marriott EAST is located near the Southern leg of I-240 and is at the Perkins Road Exit South. It is easily seen from the Interstate.

When you make your reservation, please mention that you are with the AIS Convention. They are ready to make you feel welcome.

For more Convention information, you may contact Elke Longworth at telephone number (901) 867-0200 or e-mail address elke@prodigy.net.

www.theirisfarm.com

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Eye Shadow Irises

(*Pseudacorus* x *Ensata*)

By Hiroshi Shimizu, Japan


B

Y WAY OF INTRODUCTION, I AM A 48-YEAR-OLD JAPANESE amateur hybridizer. About 25 years ago, I became interested in hybridizing and began working with Siberian, *Laevigata*, *Pseudacorus* and Japanese irises.

I decided to start interspecies hybridizing using *I. Pseudacorus* and *I. Ensata* in 1993. During the first stage, from 1993 to 1995, I collected many strains of *I. Pseudacorus* grown from seed obtained from the seed exchanges of the British Iris Society and the Species Iris Group of North America. In the second stage, 1996 to 1998, I mixed pollen from several Japanese iris cultivars and put it on about 100 different *I. Pseudacorus* clones. The result of these crosses prompted me to select one special *I. Pseudacorus* clone, which I named "GUBIJIN". Although GUBIJIN is aneuploid ($2n=35$), it is a very fertile pod parent. About half of the F-1 hybrid seedlings bloomed within one year after they germinated. Although the leaves of these seedlings had a slight yellow tinge, the plants demonstrated hybrid vigor and rapidly increased in size and numbers.

I noted two significant features of the seedling of GUBIJIN. First, some of the F-1 seeds from GUBIJIN germinated in their pods in autumn! Second, some seedlings resulting from crosses with white *I. Ensata* produced white flowers. This led me to believe that GUBIJIN possesses a gene for white color in the heterozygous condition.

In the third stage of my interspecies program (since 1999), I made selective crosses using specific Japanese cultivars with flowers of various colors and patterns. I harvested about 1200 seeds in September of 1999, 2000, and 2001. From the first 300 to bloom, I have selected 12, some of which are shown in the accompanying photographs. All of the flowers have beautiful colored halos around the yellow signal that resembles European ladies' eye shadow makeup. I call these "Eye shadow irises".

Unfortunately, as in the case of most wide crosses from diploid parents, all are sterile. However because GUBIJIN is a very fertile pod parent and Japanese irises include such diverse colors and patterns, we can expect to see many more of the "eye shadow" pattern in the future. 

Murphy's Law

by Bennett C. Jones, Oregon

MURPHY'S LAW SAYS: "IF IT *CAN* HAPPEN, IT *WILL* HAPPEN."


In my early work for orange-colored dwarf irises, ORANGE TIGER and PUMPKIN CENTER were the first to be named. In the crosses that produced them I observed a flush of light green color over the falls of three or four of their sister seedlings, and I wondered if a red-bearded green amoena might be a possibility. Then I thought about Murphy and decided to test his credibility. That decision was fortified by advice given me much earlier by Fred DeForest, one of the leading hybridizers here in 1947 when I began to work with irises. I had told him there was a combination of colors I had in mind but I had been told it couldn't happen. He replied, "Young man, if you are going to listen to such advice, don't even begin to do any hybridizing. If you can see something in a flower, you can, with persistence, bring it out."

The effort for orange dwarf irises began with two of Earl Roberts' *I. pumila* hybrids, SOLAR FLIGHT and MELON HONEY, which he was using in a program for pink dwarf irises, and HOOLIGAN (Boushay 1978), a yellow dwarf iris that had a light grayed flush over its falls. These were the parents of ORANGE TIGER and PUMPKIN CENTER. Earl and I were working together, exchanging pollen and seedlings, in search of pink dwarf irises. Unfortunately, nothing came of it before he passed away and everything showing up in my work was apricot or orange, so I decided to let it go that way... Fortunately!

Deciding to pursue the idea aggressively, I made many crosses among the seedlings I had selected up to that time. I lined out more than seven hundred seedlings in the spring of 1989. In 1990, when no more than half of them were in bloom, there appeared one to let me know I owed Murphy and Fred DeForest a great deal for their advice. Numbered 509-1A (pictured), its standards were immaculate white, its falls were chartreuse supporting fiery red beards. I couldn't believe how quickly something like this had happened. It easily won best

seedling at our show the next year and it has been a workhorse since.

In 1991 I introduced PAINTED CANARY, the first selection from the green dream. Its standards were lemon yellow and the falls were orange-brown with orange-pink beards atop green hafts. This displayed the best and most prominent amount of green to that time. It was very colorful but it proved to be a poor grower, which led me to believe that the line was becoming too inbred. Help came from Terry Aitken who had become interested in the project. Using my original seedlings, he added COTTON BLOSSOM and a pink seedling from MayBelle Wright, eventually introducing JOE COOL and later TOTALLY COOL. These were blue amoenas which had good red beards and the wide round falls I needed, and they were vigorous in growth. As we share plants and pollen, I had TOTALLY COOL before its introduction, and I crossed it with 509-1A. That cross gave me a number of blue and green amoenas and blends of those colors, but most notably one I numbered 602 (pictured). This year, 2001, when the seedlings involving 602 began to bloom, I knew for certain that Fred and Murphy knew what they were talking about! After fourteen years and hundreds of discarded seedlings, green amoenas were a reality. There was a wide range of shades of green, and there were blue amoenas and blends of those colors, as illustrated in the photos 672-5, 677-3 and 675-8. Further work should bring refinement in clarity of color and improved form, though two or three of them on first bloom seemed of sufficient quality to warrant being named. For instance, 675-8 may one day find its way into your garden.

Of course, the first of the line will bear the name "Murphy's Law." 

[Editor's Note: This article originally appeared in slightly different form in the 2001 Yearbook of the British Iris Society; reprinted with permission.]

AIS is pleased to offer a simple and convenient ***Life Membership Payment Plan*** whereby members may, after having previously made arrangements with the AIS Membership Secretary, pay for a Life Membership gradually over a period of no more than two years. For details about how the Plan works, please contact the Membership Office. A Life Membership in AIS is always a sound investment which will repay generously, and now, with the Plan, paying for yours is easier than ever.

Dr. Loomis Memorial Iris Trial Gardens

2001 Awards

by Russ Eacker, Colorado

THESE GARDENS ARE AT THE BASE OF PIKES PEAK IN Colorado Springs, Colorado. Each year provides us with new challenges that we cannot control. Sometimes it is hail, but this year it was a late snow storm (middle of May) that had some effect on the performance of the irises.

Irises sent by hybridizers are tested over a three-year period. Judging is in accordance with the American Iris Society Judges Handbook, and by certified judges. Those irises receiving the highest point scores are awarded the Dr. Loomis Award. The following irises were awarded for the year 2001:

3rd Year Awards

Tall Bearded: ENCHANTED MESA (Magee) was the Dr. Loomis Award winner, followed by SUPREME DREAM (L. Hedgecock) and COUNT DRACULA (J. Hedgecock).


Standard Dwarf Bearded: 84-144-2 (Chapman) won the Dr. Loomis award, followed by Chapman 89-29-A and Corson DG-A1(2).

Top points in the IB class went to HACKMATAACK (Innerst), followed by SUGAR SNAPS (Pinegar) and CHUCKATUCK (Innerst).

2nd Year Awards

SDB seedling B4 (Corson) was the Dr. Loomis Award winner, followed by Corson seedling B1.

In the other classes, top points went to tall bearded BARBANERA (Bianco), GAMBIA (Gajdosik) and DUO DANDY (Hager); MTB seedling 93-721-4 (Chapman), BB seedling 98-189 (M. Roberts) and Species ALPHA GNU (Kasperek).

The support of hybridizers makes the high altitude trial gardens a success. If you are interested in having your irises shown and judged in the Dr. Loomis Memorial Iris Trial Gardens, contact Carol or Russ Eacker, 2513 Lelaray Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909. 

2002 Memphis Convention

Guest Iris Gardens Worth a Look

by Elke Longworth, Tennessee

APRIL 24-29, 2002, ARE THE DATES, AND MEMPHIS, Tennessee, is the place for the 2002 AIS Convention. Preparations for the tour gardens have been underway for more than two years, under the direction of Guest Iris Chairmen Steve and Jean Stone.

Hybridizers have submitted hundreds of rhizomes for the nine gardens on the 2002 tour. Convention registrants will get ample time to view both new offerings and those that have already gained popularity in the last two conventions' tours.

Here's a sneak preview of the featured gardens you'll see at the 2002 convention in Memphis:

Garden of Christie Hamilton:

A very active local gardener, Christie was not an iris "expert" when she agreed to be a host garden for the tour. But after seeing the guest irises bloom last year, she's hooked! Christie's garden is a delight for the senses—it's a park-like setting with a pond and open, easy access to the guest irises. Christie is a member of the Suburban Garden Club and is a creative designer. Her own garden is filled with a variety of plant materials used in designs. You'll enjoy this unique garden that plays the spotlight on the guest irises.

Garden of Caroline Nave:

Caroline is active in both local iris societies, the Memphis Area Iris Society and the West Tennessee Iris Society, and she has many years of experience growing irises. For the guest irises she has dedicated a number of raised beds. Caroline is active in local garden clubs, and has received Master Garden certification, as well as being an American Federation of Garden Clubs judge. Along with the guest irises, Caroline grows beautiful roses. You'll see lots of blooms here—from any vantage point.

Garden of Ellen LeBlond:

The Hernando Garden Club will host visitors to this historic Antebellum home and garden, just south of Memphis in Mississippi.

Amongst stately magnolia trees, you'll see the lovely blooms of the guest irises and Ellen's other love—peonies. With more than 500 bushes, Ellen is a popular regional source for florists to buy their cut peony blooms. Ellen is a volunteer at the Dixon Gardens—a nationally known botanical site. You'll enjoy this one-of-a-kind garden!

Martine Madlinger's Garden:

Martine is an avid irisarian, and is a member of both the MAIS and the WTIS. Her own iris blooms are seen in great numbers at local iris shows, and her generosity of sharing named rhizomes is recognized throughout the area. Martine's garden is full of Tennessee wildflowers—her love. You'll see many things growing at Martine's that cannot be grown outside this region. A Master Gardener, Martine was one of the first to step forward to become a guest garden. You won't want to miss this stop since Martine also grows many varieties of her own!

Dabney's Nursery:

A local popular nursery, Dabney's has been a friend to local iris growers and gardeners for many years. A short drive south from Memphis, Dabney's features many acres of live plants and trees. There will be easy access to the guest iris plantings near the entrance, where you'll be amazed at how a professional nursery can pamper the rhizomes. The guest irises here get plenty of sun and love, and will reward us all with a great bloom season during the convention!

West Tennessee Iris Society Garden:

Located in Germantown, TN, the 15-year-old WTIS garden is popular throughout the metro area for the bloom display each spring (and fall!). The garden was specifically reconfigured to accommodate the guest irises, so they can be viewed at their best. In addition, there are more than 400 other varieties of Tall Bearded, MTB's, SDB's, Spurias, and Siberian irises at this location. The WTIS members maintain the garden year round and plant many new varieties each year. Most of the iris in the garden will be three-year clumps during the convention tour. You'll be thrilled to see the WTIS garden in full bloom next April!

Elke & Nick Longsworth Garden:

Located in Mason, TN, a short drive from Memphis, Elke's 150 acres are the perfect setting for guest irises to show at their best. Elke is


the chairman of the 2002 convention committee, and a true irisarian. She is active in the Memphis Area Iris Society, where she has taken on many responsibilities over the years. With plenty of "walking around" room, you'll enjoy seeing the guest irises and Elke's many hundreds of other irises, with a view of the beautiful lake. Elke is also an internationally known honeybee hybridizer and beekeeper. Some of the best honey in these parts!

Tennessee Bicentennial Iris Garden at the Memphis Botanic Garden:

This unique formal garden is the official iris garden of the State of Tennessee. Since the iris is Tennessee's State Flower, it's no wonder that this garden will be a highlight of the tour. Created in an amphitheatre style, with a reflecting pool at its center, the garden is host to every submitted guest iris variety. Hundreds will be seen here in their best garden form! The garden was planted and is maintained by the Memphis Area Iris Society under the capable direction of local expert irisarian, Brenda Belus. Brenda has worked tirelessly to make the Bicentennial Garden a thing of beauty during the convention in April. There's so much to see here, we've decided to make it two stops on the tour!

Steve and Jean Stone Garden:

As Guest Iris Chairmen, Jean and Steve Stone have been responsible for all the guest gardens for the tour, handling the many hundreds of rhizomes, and weathering challenges and obstacles for more than two years. They've done a remarkable job for the convention, and also volunteered their own garden as a tour stop! Steve is President of the West Tennessee Iris Society; Jean has served in several roles in the club over the past few years. Their own garden, with more than 400 varieties of newer irises (mostly 3-year old clumps), will be something to see this spring. When you add in the guest irises, this tour stop will be a colorful one indeed!

Take the time now to register early for the 2002 convention in Memphis. "The Blues and Other Colors" theme just hints at all the fun in store. We're delighted to be your hosts, and we promise the Memphis garden tours at the 2002 convention will be worth the trip. Ya'll come! 

[Editor's note: For more Convention information, you may contact Elke Longworth at 901 867-0200 or e-mail address elke@prodigy.net.]

The Hybridizers Speak:

The Best of the Class of '02

by Bruce Filardi, Oregon



ONCE AGAIN, WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEW YEAR'S introductions to help us through the dark, dreary winter days. We have a lot of great new irises to tell you about! Due to constraints of time (mine) and space (the *Bulletin's*), we had to reduce the number of hybridizers who participated this year. However, we had – with the help of a bit of last-minute nagging! – almost 100% response from the people we contacted, and I'd like to thank all of you for your input once again this year.

I'm sorry to tell you that four of our best hybridizers will not have introductions in 2002, but this only heightens our anticipation of their intros in '03! They are Sterling Innerst, Vern Wood, Tom Magee, and Kevin Vaughn.

In our coverage, we'll start with the beardless entrants, followed by bearded, from MDB's up to TB's. Descriptions are based on information provided by the hybridizer.

Beardless:

Siberians:

BLUE EYED PRINCESS (L. Reid). This Sino-Siberian has striking color and clean patterning on a flaring, broad petalled flower. Parentage is: Clear pale yellow albino (a chance seedling of an *I. chrysographes* clone) X sib to Pacific Dark Eyes (Lightly Touched x (Blue Forty x Mauve Mood)). It has been quite popular with garden visitors.

EMILY ANNE (R. Hollingworth). A tetraploid, its coloring is quite novel for a Siberian: essentially a plicata pattern with dashes of blue-purple around the edge of creamy yellow falls. Quite tall, notably floriferous, relatively tailored. Sdlg X Somebody Loves Me.

FLOURESCENCE (L. Reid). Another Sino-Siberian, its most striking features include extremely broad flower parts and an almost fluorescent magenta/maroon effect in garden sunlight. (Mauve Mood x Blue Forty) X second generation Beautiful Forty seedling.

HOHE WARTE (T. Tamberg). Diploid Siberian (white Hollingworth sdlg X SNOW PRINCE), small flowers of a near white lavender, up to

seven flowers on stems of 140 cm height, brilliant clump effect.

LITTLE CENTENNIAL (C. McEwen). Diploid, a vigorous bloomer with many 3 to 4 inch flowers of excellent form and ruffling. Flowers abundantly for 6 weeks or more. Its snow-white color is accented by pale green veins in the signals. Silver Illusion X (white McGarvey seedling x Lavender Bounty).

RUFFLES AND FLOURISHES (R. Hollingworth). Glowing red with a gold blaze; very bright, intense color. Extravagant ruffling and round, full form from its pollen parent; a white wire rim on its falls from its pod parent. Band of Angles X Strawberry Fair.

Schafer/Sacks sdlg S95-74-1 (not yet named). A large, ruffled, light yellow Siberian. A special feature is the petaloid style arms with extra large curls at the tips, giving the flower a very full appearance. It makes a fine clump, blooming just above the foliage with 5 blooms per stalk, and with ample repeat. The parentage includes a string of seedling with Careless Sally on both sides.

Schafer/Sacks sdlg SP94-27 (not yet named). Both SPEC and a Siberian, it is a small-flowered classic *I. sibirica*. The mid blue-violet flower has light butterfly-like substance, is narrow but well shaped, and has a large white signal, veined in dark blue. Six to nine buds per stalk, including up to five in the terminal and up to three branches. Seed is from SIGNA, parentage unknown

Tamberg sdlg SSTT604 (not yet named). A tetraploid Siberian from a cross of two seedlings, very large blue flowers with semi-flaring, ruffled falls and upright standards, shows the near classical shape of the modern Siberian we aim for.

Japanese:

CENTENARY (C. McEwen). A 6th generation tetraploid with 8-inch flowers; round, flaring falls; 29 inch plants with one excellent branch. The color is the most vibrant velvety red-purple yet seen in the Japanese iris. From eight generations of seedlings involving Muffled Drums, Pink Triumph, Garden Caprice, and a Hirao seedling.

FRECKLED PEACOCK (C. Harris). This new beauty has large blooms that can reach close to twelve inches across. The three pendant falls are white, heavily freckled maroon, deepening toward the shoulder. The white standards have a very fine wire edging of maroon. One or two branches carry up to seven buds, for an extremely long bloom season. Summer Splash X Peacock Strut.

Louisianas:

GUNNER (J. Taylor). Fluted and ruffled violet. Moderate increase but beautifully formed blooms. Louie X Rachel's Request.

LULIN (J. Taylor). Short growing, small-flowered pink of quality. Gladiator's Gift X Helen Naish.

SOUTH SEA PEARL (H. Pryor). This is one of the nicest cultivars, destined for release to the northern hemisphere in early 2002. There is a silvery-grey sheen overlay on the pure white petals of this lovely self, with large blossoms measuring nearly 7" across. The parentage of Deep Sea Quest X Frosted Moonbeam gives a hint of how this cultivar received its shimmering sheen. Bud placement, position and growth habits are excellent.

WEBSITE (H. Pryor). As the name implies, this cultivar exhibits a plethora of fine purple veining over a delicate lemon base. The lemon style arms, and the deep lime base and fine lemon rim on all petals give this cultivar a unique effect. WEBSITE's parentage is (JAZZ BALLET x ROSEBERRY) X EXCLUSIVE LABEL. Slower to increase than many other Pryor releases, it is still well worth growing. Bud placement and general growth habits are excellent. Certain to enchant those who like more unusual color combinations.

Bearded Iris:

MDB:

LITTLE CLIPPER (W&A Godfrey). An MDB which grows extremely well everywhere from California to its home state of Massachusetts. A neglecta with violet standards over deep purple falls, it is highlighted by white beards and white feather markings around the hafts. Dilemma X self.

SDB's:

CIRCUS DRAGON (B. Jones). The excitement and color of the circus is all wrapped up in this one. Nicely formed flowers are bright canary yellow, accented by large bright red-orange beards, a startling color combination. Standards are domed and closed; the falls flare near to horizontal. Vigorous growth. From seedlings involving Orange Dazzler, Orange Tiger, Painted Canary, Orange Outrage.

CUORE (A. Bianco). Brown plicata markings on cream ground. Good form and lots of ruffling. As a seedling, CUORE won Queen of Show in 2001 in Oklahoma City.

DEATH BY CHOCOLATE (A. Bianco). Quite a new color in the dwarf class, it is a bright chocolate bitone with deep rusty beards. Good form.

ENCHANTED MOCHA (D&B Schmieder). Set apart by its very different and distinctive coloring, with faint lavender markings running through the honey apricot standards and darker cherry mocha spot on the apricot falls. Pele X Chanted.

HELMSMAN (M. Smith). This is the first orange plicata SDB. Cantaloupe orange standards with strong peach midrib; cream falls with a faint peach infusion on the outer half, and 2-inch orange plicata band. Some vertical orange veins in the fall center, shoulders smoked Spanish orange. Flashy large red beards. From seedlings inv. Cupid's Cup, Fairy Lore, Pink Caper, Chanted, Tricks.

LAP CAT (L. Baumunk). Lowell's only introduction this year, LAP CAT is a plicata with very faint lavender blue marking; the garden impression is of a pure white iris. Form (from Chubby Cheeks) is wide and excellent; makes attractive clumps. Muchacha X Chubby Cheeks.

NAVY RUFFLES (T. Johnson). A perky, heavily ruffled dark navy purple. Big, bushy pale violet beards are frosted in white, making a startling and showy contrast. Bee Mused X Tweety Bird.

PUDDY TAT (P. Black). Pale blue-white standards, over blue-black falls with a sharply-defined 1/8-inch band of pale blue-white. Set off by contrasting blue-white beards with small white starburst. PUDDY TAT makes one of the most startling and showy SDB clumps in the garden. It is the closest to a black-and-white SDB that we know. Well Suited X Jazzmatazz.

QUARTZLIGHT (M. Smith). A smoky rose quartz SDB from Chanted; this one tends to be slightly more orchid in acid soils.

RETURN TO AGA (R. Thurman). A reblooming standard dwarf arilbred! S. light purple, F. velvety purple with darker zone, beards bronze in throat ending in pale lavender. In Toto X Green Eyed Sheba.

SEDONA (B. Jones). Named for the pretty little town of Sedona, Arizona, nestled among colorful sandstone formations. This SDB's colors bring to mind Sedona's landscape. Conical standards, closed at the tip, are a deep pure pink; flaring falls are Mars orange to brownish orange; beards are reddish orange. A unique and pretty combination of colors. Inca Doll X ((Inca Doll x sib) x Pink Caper).

VERITY ANN (M. Hutcheson). A charming white SDB, elegantly stitched with pale violet plicata markings around edges of standards and falls. Excellent form and increase. Gemstar X Altruist.

IB's:

BOLD STATEMENT (R. Tasco). Lavender-violet standards edged aster-violet; bright Naples yellow falls with a faint edge of violet-

white; tangerine beard tipped aster violet, up to four buds. Lightly ruffled with a slight sweet fragrance, a new color combination in its class. Liked by the public and visiting judges. Alpine Journey X Vavoom.

JUMP START (K. Keppel). Rounded form; dark wine standards, burgundy black falls, bright burnt orange beards. Strongly purple-based foliage.

MTB's:

AMONG FRIENDS (T. Varner). Form is excellent with closed white standards, flaring plum purple black falls rimmed white, and white beards. It increases readily, blossoms well, and sets seeds easily.

DANCING LILACS (S. Markham). A clear lilac with excellent bud count, vigor, color and proportion. Sara's Love X In Fashion.

LARRY'S GIRL (S. Markham). S. are near-solid medium violet, F. are white, lightly edged with violet plicata markings. Petite, vigorous, and floriferous. Astra Girl X Rosemary's Dream.

MASLON (D. Spoon). Bright yellow standards and purple falls with white border; golden yellow beards, flared and ruffled. Great branching with 7 to 9 buds, blooms for over 3 weeks. Vigorous. Frosted Velvet X Alately.

NIGHT SPIRIT (J&V Craig). Heavily ruffled and widely flaring, **NIGHT SPIRIT** is truly a Miniature Modern Tall Bearded iris. It is deep dark violet and a vigorous grower. From complex parentage including Craig and Hager seedlings and introduced varieties.

BB:

ELEGANT LASS (V Craig). Known in the Portland area as "Vicki's pet," this early-blooming BB has white standards over pink-lavender falls. A vigorous grower and prolific bloomer, it makes a beautiful clump. Payoff X Rave Review.

TB's:

AMIALE (J. Ghio). S. mid pink, F. lavender pink. Extraordinary form, branching, bud count, and vigor. Pond Lily X Mild Manner.

ANGEL'S DESIRE (V. Christopherson). This highly-anticipated pink amoena received rave reviews at the Dallas Convention. Behold A Lady X Silver Fox.

ANNOUNCEMENT (P. Black). Blush cameo pink S., blue-violet F. with pale white halo on edge, tangerine beards ending in large blue-violet flounces. This plant has been a delight from the first bloom that opened. Plants are vigorous with good increase; show stalks normally have 3 branches and 8 buds. To the Point X Lookout Point.

AUNT MARGARET (D. Spoon). A smooth bishop purple self, flared with gentle ruffles, resistant to borer and soft rot. A very cold-

hardy rebloomer, blooming even with night temperatures reaching 26 degrees. Holy Night X Purple Magic.

AUSTAR PINK (G. Grosvenor '02/'03). Late-flowering, well-branched, ruffled, well-formed pink. Great color, great growth. Bred from Pink Starlet.

BREAKING NEWS (D. Meek). White S., coral F., red-orange beards. Strong rebloom until frost. Champagne Girl X English Charm.

BROADBAND (R. Tasco). Pale grape S.; clean white F. with a band of dark grape; violet beard. Ruffled with heavy sweet fragrance. Strong purple-base foliage. Splashacata X Chatter.

BROWN SUGAR SPICE (O. Brown). A beautiful sunfast creation from Opal Brown, and one of the best and most vigorous in the brown color range. S. have an ochre gold rib that blends to russet and then brown as it approaches the margins. F. are ruffled and laced and partially flared; color around the beards is white with a violet haze, transitioning to a yellow and brown blend, ending in brown at the margins. Brown texture veins add depth. Big old gold beards complement the overall composition. Indian Caper X Caliph.

CHOCOLATE CHESS (W. Moores). Milk chocolate self blending to golden brown at petal edges, with yellow beards. Diamond-dusted, it sparkles in the sunlight. Gently ruffled on well-branched stalks. Lemon Chess X Acapulco Sunset.

COME TOGETHER (L. Lauer). An early neglecta with good bud count; white S. with faint blue cast and wistaria F.; bubbly ruffled form.

COMFORT ZONE (V. Christopherson). Rose bitone with white spray. Olympic Pink X Pulse Rate Date sib.

CONCESSION (T. Aitken). (Ed.: added to list by author) A beautiful and distinctive white with mid- to dark blue veining on the falls, extending from the red beard almost to the edges.

DALEAMITE (T. Burseen). A beautiful space ager that is a frosted light blue blend with flare, many ruffles, lace, and violet horns. A great grower and bloomer. ((Beat the Heat x Stingray) x blue Roar sib) X (Silverado x Burr Scene).

DANCING IN PINK (G. Grosvenor '02/'03). A quality, early-flowering pink. Tall, well-branched and -budded. Great on the show bench and in the garden.

ELEGANT PURSUIT (F. Kerr). Stylish amoena with clear white S. and medium blue falls. Good bud count. Sdls. inv. Edith Wolford, Condottiere, and Glitz 'n Glitter.

FRENCH-CANCAN (R. Cayeux). Clear pink S. and pale lavender-blue F.; nice contrast with a vivid red beard. A favorite of

garden visitors. Child of Fortune X Parisien.

FUTURISTE (R. Cayeux). Large flower with white S., white F. with a bright blue-violet border, and clear yellow beards. Strongly ruffled. (Alizés x Skating Party) X Deltaplane.

GALLANT THEME (F. Kerr). Tall, large-flowered. Light blue S. infused darker at base; wide, semi-flaring, ruffled, very dark blue F.; yellow-orange beards surrounded by white ray pattern. This intro carries red beard genes and has been used extensively by the hybridizer. Kevin's Theme X Gallant Rogue.

GODDESS OF LOVE (D. Pinegar). Gorgeous peach SA with nice ruffling and heavy lace; long horns. Reincarnation X Someone Cares.

GOT MILK (T. Aitken). An imposing pure white with generous proportions, nice rolling ruffles, good substance. Flowers are mounted on sturdy 40-inch stems with 4 or 5 branches. Bud count ranges from 12 to 16. Rapid Fire X Alpine Summit.

HAPPY AGAIN (Schreiner). (Ed.: added to list by author) Amber yellow S.; white F. with amber yellow band around the edge and large amber thumbprint hafts; amber beard. Child of First Interstate.

HIDDEN MESSAGE (R. Mullin). Very violet-blue S. and white F. with a brushing of violet-blue, blue beards. Honky Tonk Blues X Olympiad.

HYPNOTIZER (G. Sutton). A very wide ruffled bicolor spaceager. S. are icy white; F. are deep burgundy wine edged pink. Beards are bronze yellow with consistent orchid-pink horns. Every stalk carries 7 to 8 buds with impeccable branching. (Tomorrow's Child x Sky Hooks) X Double Agent.

JAYCEETEE (G. Grosvenor '01/'02). An updated SKATING PARTY. Superb garden and show iris. Skating Party X Scandia Delight.

JUNGLE DANCER (J. Hedgecock). Standards are ruffled creamy beige. Falls are laced and ruffled medium purple with 1/4" rim of pale brown at edges. Gold beards end in medium purple flounces or horns. (Space Dragon x Tuxedo) X Sophistication.

KIND HEARTED (T. Johnson). A different bicolor, with light salmon peach S. and smoky pearl lilac F. What really makes this different is the large, light salmon zonal area around bright russet orange beards. It also has narrow gilt gold rims on all petals. Tall, well-branched, excellent vigor. Role Model X Off Color Joke.

KITTY KAY (K. Keppel). Clean, clear pink color and abundant ruffles! This is one of the most impressive flowers the author has seen, with beautiful form and personality. Coming Up Roses X (Social Event x Femme Fatale).



Mego Seedling 93-0038

German Iris Competition 2001

(See story pg. 12)

Photo: Stetson



Stetson Seedling TB9512

KLIEG LIGHT (D. Niswonger). It is a bright gold with a neon-like glow, with a small white blaze in the falls. Sunkist Meadows X Last Halo [((Sunkist Frills x Halo in Yellow) x Halo in Gold)].

LACY LYNX (B. Kasperek). Victorian pink S. and F. are randomly splashed with red-violet. Matching style arms, plus tangerine beards. Victorian lace ruffles and color!

LOVELY SENORITA (Schreiner). Flaming Mikado orange S. and burnt mars-orange F. Four-branched stems with 10 to 15 buds per stalk. Very large, non-fading flowers. Champagne Waltz X Savannah Sunset.

MIDNIGHT THUNDER (M. Sutton). RE SA, deep violet-blue S., midnight blue F. Beards are blue-violet, ending in fuzzy midnight horns. Hello Darkness X Trick or Treat.

NEHALEM BAY (Schreiner). Amoena with blue-violet falls, thick flower substance, vigorous growth habits, and 8 to 9 buds. Overnight Sensation X Indigo Princess.

NO DOUBT (L. Lauer). Domed S. are yellow with apricot flush; rounded, flared F. are purplish plum with lilac-purple edge; white area around violet horn; excellent form.

OBSIDIAN (M. Smith). Silky purple-black S. and very black velvet F., with 9 buds, wide ruffles, and a large, fuzzy beard that appears to be tipped electric blue. Intense color saturation and pollen fertile. Before the Storm X Keppel 88-40A (pollen parent of Storm Track).

OUR SONG (R. Mullin). One for the show enthusiasts, OUR SONG produces four perfectly placed flowers open at once, often twice on the same stem. The color is unique, but its branching is what really sets it apart.

PASSION FOR PINK (R. Ernst). Deep pink standards, even deeper on the midribs. Semi-flaring falls are lighter pink with deep pink veining and shoulders. Bright red beards. Heavy substance. From Ernst seedlings from Gaulter and Shoop lines.

PLANET JANET (T. Burseen). A beautiful space ager that has it all: good performance, size, color, form, and huge flounces. S. are white, F. are bright violet-blue with light blue-lavender edges, very flared and ruffled with some lace. (Monty's Sweet Blue x (Momentum x Sky Hooks)) X Air Up There.

RAINBOW SELECTION (G. Grosvenor '01/'02). Outstanding form and unusual color, with horns. Lemon yellow S., mauve F. with brown rim. From an interesting cross: Conjunction X Romantic Mood.

RAPID FIRE (T. Aitken). This plant carries the highest bud count we have ever seen! Stems with 25 buds are a frequent occurrence, with

triple sockets and double-budded spurs. The flowers have heavy substance, good form, and clear soft blue-lavender color deepening at the petal base. Blooms are smaller than average TB's but in proportion to the stems (about 30 inches). From Maui Surf lines.

RASPBERRY SORBET (J. Hedgecock). Beautiful laced and ruffled orchid pink with slight blue flash at white beards tipped reddish orange. Lamoyne X unknown.

RECURRING GLORY (G. Sutton). Heavily ruffled pansy violet self with bluebird blue beards. A rebloomer with modern wide form and well-balanced branching, carrying 7 to 9 buds in April and up to 14 buds in the fall. Titan's Glory X Earl of Essex.

REVERE (J. Ghio). A new color combination: White, yellow halo around standards, blue-washed rim around the falls. Impulsive sib X Dear Jean.

ROSY THUMBPRINTS (D. Niswonger). The standards are pink, and the falls are white with a rosy thumbprint at the hafts. The beard is blue-based with hairs tipped tangerine. (Betty Dunn x Imprimis) X ((Ambling x Champagne Elegance) x Pumpkin Cheesecake).

SHORE PATROL (W. Moores). Ruffled marine blue self with yellow and white beards. Heavily ruffled with tendency to rebloom in the fall. Sib to FOLLOW THE FLEET. Stellar Lights X Breakers.

SPICE LORD (B. Blyth). Plicata with striking contrast: brown-red on warm white. Copatonic X Power Surge.

STRANGE BREW (Schreiner). (Ed.: added to list by author) Very unusual! S. yellow; F. light yellow background, bright bronze shoulders, lavender-red wash down the falls; yellow-gold beard. Sib to WILD FRONTIER.

TAUGHT BY MASTERS (R. Ernst). Blended plum S. over peach F. with tangerine beards in the Shoop tradition. Ruffles and shouldering, too. From Ernst darktop lines descending from Irene Nelson and Afternoon Delight.

TIMPANAGOS PRINCESS (D. Pinegar). White S. and styles and F. ground, with orchid-mauve marks, veining, and striping. Great branching and bud count – up to 11 buds. Sib to GRAPE ECHO. High Ho Silver X Sweeter than Wine.

TROPICAL DELIGHT (M. Sutton). RE SA, amber yellow S.; F. are phlox purple with golden orange shoulders. Tangerine beards end in feathered phlox purple spoons. Heavy ruffles, light lace. Heartbreak Hotel X (In Town x Sweet Musette).

WINTRY SKY (K. Keppel). A reverse bicolor, violet-blue S. paling towards edge, cool white F. with an inconspicuous smudge of violet-

blue in throat and around the beards, which are blue-based, frosted cream. Outstanding form! Crowned Heads X (Spring Shower x Modern Times).


ZEBRA MILK (B, Kasperek). A good grower with white-green variegation on foliage, stalks, and even the unopened buds. The flower is a ruffled milk-white self with just a hint of lavender, yellow-orange beards tipped lavender.

In closing, I'll mention just a few names for 2002 that I think are outstanding.

First of all: SHORE PATROL. What a *great* name for a blue TB. In fact, I'm amazed that this name wasn't snapped up 50 years ago. Great job, Walter!

And GODDESS OF LOVE, the quintessential name for a pastel iris. I think I'd want this one in my garden for the name alone. It's nice that Darlene has given us a beautiful iris to go with it!

Other good choices where the name has a certain "pizzazz" while fitting its namesake: DANCING LILACS, MIDNIGHT THUNDER, OBSIDIAN, SOUTH SEA PEARL, STRANGE BREW (an appropriate name for a very unusual iris), and WINTRY SKY.

And last but not least is the name that brings a smile to my face every time I think of it! Terry Aitken chose a clever, contemporary "handle" for one of his new intros. What could be a catchier name for a white iris than..... GOT MILK? 

Reporting Your Change of Address

Please report any change of mailing address promptly to the AIS Membership Secretary. If the Membership Office does not know your current address, your Bulletins will not arrive as you expect them to, and the undeliverable Bulletins returned to the Office will cost AIS money in wasted postage and fees. Reporting address changes to other AIS or Regional personnel will delay the news reaching the Membership Office, so, to keep your Bulletins coming, always write, call, or e-mail the Membership Secretary immediately with your current information.



Green Amoenas (See story pg. 21)

All photos this page B. Jones

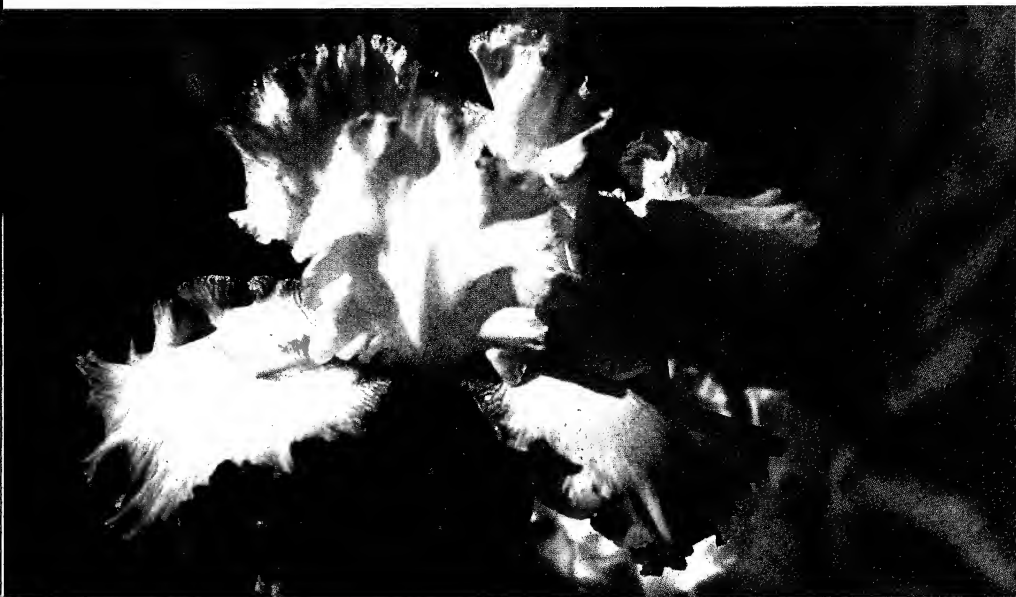


Top Left: 509-1A
 Top Right: 677-3
 Middle Left: 602
 Middle Right: 675-8
 Bottom: 672-5



ENCHANTED MESA (Magee)

Nelson Award Winner (See Exhibition Report)



CONJURATION (Byers)

On the Road Again

by Terry Aitken, Vancouver, Washington



VERY YEAR, GARDEN VISITORS CORNER ME OUT IN THE field and ask what my favorite iris is. This usually results in a glazed look and a lot of mumbling. Our bloom season runs from the beginning of April until sometime in November. The question should be - in which category and in which season? In the best interest of credibility, I shall not mention any of our own hybrids even though, on any given day from spring until fall, there is usually something "out there" worth a second glance.

Bloom season can begin as early as mid-March. The earliest harbingers of spring are the Miniature Dwarf Bearded irises. Amongst the earliest is ALPINE LAKE (Willott '81) and particularly welcome for its bright blue fall color. Bright and cheerful are good qualities in the early cold and blustery days of March! Another standout in this group is TOOTH FAIRY (B. Jones '93). It is unique to this class for its bright orange amoena pattern and bright orange beard. Hard on the heels of the MDB's are the SDB's. There are so many good irises in this class, it is tough to call out just a few. JEWELER'S ART (Lankow '93) is possibly the reddest of any bearded iris. MINIDRAGON (M. Smith '98) is unique to this class with deep red-black petals and a flashy orange beard. Then it has the nerve to turn around and bloom again in August - at least here on the west side of the Cascades! For color intensity, RUBY ERUPTION (Chapman '97) is a hot yellow ground with a red-black rim. Many of Bennett Jones' plants are world-beaters. For years, RAIN DANCE has been THE blue. Perhaps BLUE RILL (B. Jones '99) will become its replacement? Evelyn Jones' SNOW SEASON ('93) is a pure white with very round form and topped off with a frosty blue beard. Allan Ensminger's AJAX THE LESS is the "more" for being a round white with a flashy blue spot. Sterling Innerst has a series culminating in SKIDDLE ('94), which is a rich blue with a nearly black spot. New to the limelight is Chuck Chapman's FOREVER BLUE

('97); it is the most intense rebloomer in this class and is in color all through August. I could go on, but if I could only grow ONE SDB, this year it would be FAIRY RING (Duane Meek '98). Flowers have exquisite form and intense color in a plicata pattern (starchy white ground with deep purple rim) that enhances its superior presence.

At this point, we are so firmly focused on Reblooming Intermediates that it is hard to think in terms of spring bloom only. However, CEE JAY (Lankow '92) is the standout in springtime for great form and color (white ground plicata with soft blue rims). Right behind it is STARWOMAN (M. Smith '98), another plicata, only this time done on a white ground with a very dark purple rim. This is a very vigorous and floriferous plant. During August rebloom, MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Baumunk '99) shows us intensely rich, glossy deep purple color applied to great flower form.

Some newer Siberians got my attention as seen at the National Convention in Pennsylvania. In Carol Warner's garden, we saw ROSY BOWS (Bauer/Coble '00), one of the new "double" Siberians. The form was quite round with a distinctly layered look. Color was a smooth rich rosy-lavender. The other outstanding Siberian showed up in Sterling Innerst's garden. This was SOMEBODY LOVES ME (Hollingworth '98), with large round and ruffled petals done in pleasant light blue lavender with a large white zonal pattern surrounding the small yellow signal. Another very distinctive Siberian was NEAT TRICK (J. White '97). This is a miniature plant and flower done in deep purple with white streaks running through it. Nothing else like it out there.

Among the Border Bearded irises, the role model has to be CLASSIC NAVY (Lankow '99). Good flower form, rich deep navy blue color and show bench branching make this a star. We are quite fascinated by Joe Ghio's LOW PROFILE ('98). Marvelous flowers are very round, slightly ruffled, with heavy substance and done in rich orange. In our garden, proportion is a problem as the flower is a bit big and the stem a bit bunched. Another BB of note was John Weiler's CAMEO BLUSH ('98), which has taken quite a liking to the Northwest. This plant rebloomed furiously from mid-August until late October. Color is a soft peach with a violet cast to the standards that would classify it as a "dark top" at the Aitken ranch. Again, proportion is a problem as the plant grows "out of class" for us (30") and flower size is large (TB size). However, in addition to its rebloom, it is fertile and enjoying much attention!

Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden



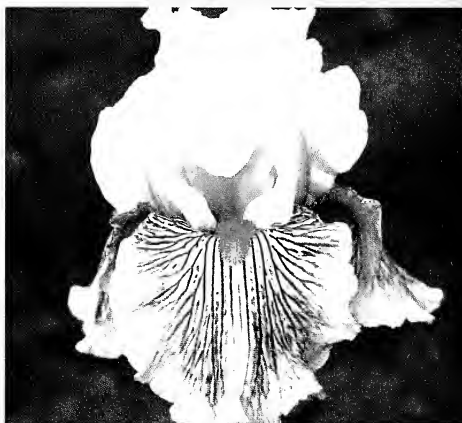
OBSIDIAN (M. Smith '02) TB



GOT MILK (Aitken '02) TB



RAPID FIRE (Aitken '02) TB



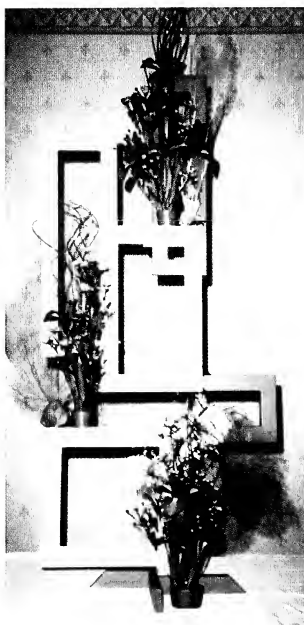
CONCESSION (Aitken '02) TB



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(See accompanying
 story pg. 68)

All photos: Carolyn Hawkins

Design Corner




Finally! The main event! Tall Bearded bloom season! I am not above looking at novelty irises such as horns, spoons, flounces, broken colors, flat tops, and especially rebloom. These plants are all unique in their own way. However, they must still measure up to the same criteria of flower form, substance, rich colors, show bench branching and plant vigor. APOLLO ONE (Sutton '97) would be a good example. This is a yellow ground plicata with a sharply defined wine rim and a tidy horn. Flower form, branching and vigor are excellent. Another plicata that holds our attention is AMERICAN CLASSIC (Schreiner '96). Color is a starchy white with a deep blue/purple rim that defines the very round and ruffled petal form. Robust stems and good growth complete the picture. A new iris that focused our attention this year was OCTOBER SKIES (Lauer '00), a lusty blue bitone that rebloomed for us in August! We had already been watching the plant because of its exceptionally healthy and vigorous foliage. Rebloom was just icing on the cake! (It had fertile pollen with the SDB FOREVER BLUE (Chapman '97), which was also in bloom in August.). At National, a new color combination was showing promise: BOUTIQUE FASHION (Ernst '99) was a very ruffly lavender, but at the base of each standard and fall was a pronounced blaze of yellow. Another relatively new color from Cooley's garden was RING AROUND ROSY (Ernst '00), a Wild Jasmine derivative, with a substantial improvement in growth, stem and flower habit. (Even its seedpods were purple!) While QUEEN'S CIRCLE (F.Kerr '00) was the star of the Convention, we were also impressed with DEAR JEAN (F.Kerr '96), a similar pattern only with a yellow ground and a purple rim. Brad Kasperek has popularized "broken colors"; from another source, we have BROKEN DREAMS (Keppel '98), which has a peachy-pink flower with streaks of white running through the petals. Another outstanding TB of Keppel's is his CROWNED HEADS ('97) with its distinctive deep blue standards over crisp white falls. A standout at National this year was Innerst's ESTABLISHED POWERS ('96), which impressed us with its fine form and elegant application of the plicata pattern in dark blue-violet. I did manage a tour of Schreiner's, Cooley's and Keith Keppel's late in bloom season and observed progress in many different directions, but I will reserve those plants and photos for another article.

There is a brief window in time between TB bloom and JI bloom. This time is a moment of glory for the Louisiana irises. This year, we

were able to visit Lynn and Barry Finkel's garden (Isle of View) where we got to see many new LA's. When all was said and done, two plants stood out. One was HAIL MARY (M. Dunn '99), terra-cotta red with a yellow steeple signal. (I am quite fascinated by these "steeple" and "arrow" signals!) Then came the iris that I rank as the best plant I saw all year for a new color combination: JACARANDA LAD (H. Pryor '97/98), a soft creamy blue-lavender on a nice flat flower with ruffled edges. The real grabber was the pinkish style arms in the center. What an elegant combination!

Japanese irises now bloom early enough to overlap TB season! Our JI fields were in two-year clumps and it was a vintage year for Japanese bloom. We plant alphabetically and front and center of the whole field stood ANGEL MOUNTAIN (Bauer/Coble '00). Flowers were almost eyeball to eyeball with us in an imposing clump! Large 6-fall flowers are white ground with an overlay of violet. White style arms stand like a refreshing fountain above the broad flowers. Not far down the line stood an imposing clump of FROSTED INTRIGUE (Bauer/Coble '97), perhaps 40" tall, with slightly smaller flowers. These were also a 6-fall type, quite round and ruffled with heavy substance. Color was an inky deep rich purple with a hint of white outlining the ruffles. Again the accent was the highly contrasting upright white style arms. Another plant that has fascinated me for many years was Chad Harris' BEWITCHING TWILIGHT ('00), because the yellow signal bleeds out onto the pale blue falls. Style arms also appear to be a soft yellow. Is this the road to a yellow Japanese iris? The very best of all the JI's in our garden this year was ROSEWATER (Bauer/Coble '96). This was another tall robust specimen with a smooth rosy lavender color. The styles were a much darker shade. The key ingredient here was the mysterious rich blue blaze that seemed to emanate from around the signal. I led many a garden visitor over to see this inspiring beauty!

By now, we are well into July and a few of the Siberians (CORONATION ANTHEM and DEVIL'S DREAM) are still blooming and the medians are beginning their second curtain call. The color parade marches on until freeze up! I can hardly wait until next spring for the next parade to begin! 

On the Road Again *(See story pg. 40)*





All Photos: Airken

Left Page, Clockwise from top left:
 ESTABLISHED POWERS
 DEVILS DREAM
 SOMEBODY LOVES ME
 JACARANDA LAD
 OCTOBER SKIES
 CAMEO BLUSH

This Page, Clockwise from above:
 CLASSIC NAVY
 ANGEL MOUNTAIN
 FOREVER BLUE
 MINIDRAGON



In Memoriam:

Larry Harder

by Cal Reuter, Nebraska

LARRY LYLE HARDER WAS BORN DECEMBER 21, 1936, on the Silvercreek farmstead of his parents Joe and Mildred Harder. The second of seven children, Larry attended rural school, started high school at age twelve and graduated at age fifteen, one of the youngest ever to graduate from Ponca High School. He was baptized in Trinity Lutheran Church in Martinsburg and confirmed in Immanuel Lutheran Church, and remained a faithful servant.

Larry began his career as Clerk of the District Court in Dixon County in 1953, later rising to the position of Dixon County Clerk. He then worked for the Farmer's Home Administration for thirty years, receiving numerous awards, and retiring in 1992.


Larry's favorite flower was the iris. His interest in all plants was never-ending. If he encountered something that he hadn't grown, he would get hold of it as soon as possible. He was very modest about his vast knowledge of plants and flowers. If you would ask him about any plant, he could tell you if it was hardy here and how to best grow it and what to expect. He started growing iris in 1953 with his mother's help, and he founded Maple Tree Iris Garden in 1961. In 1959 he joined the American Iris Society, and became Regional Vice President of Region 21 in 1965. He was Editor of the Region 21 *Bulletin* for nine years.

Larry attended his first AIS Convention in Kansas City in 1962 and had attended every convention since. He became an iris judge in 1965 and later achieved the status of Master Judge. In 1969 he was appointed Youth Chairman of the AIS and helped set up a program still in use. Larry was a Director for eight years and Historian for over twenty-five years for the AIS. During this period of time, he sought out and secured (sometimes after diligent pursuit) difficult-to-find items which are the one of the reasons that the AIS Library is so large today. He was a Life Member of the American Iris Society.

He was a Charter Member of the Median Iris Society, Japanese Iris

Society, SIGNA, Society of Pacific Coast Native Irises, Spuria Iris Society, Louisiana Iris Society, and Reblooming Iris Society. He belonged to the Dwarf Iris Society, British Iris Society, American Horticultural Society, Royal Horticultural Society, American Lily Society, North American Gladiolus Society, and the American Hemerocallis Society, of which he was past Regional Vice President. He was a Board Member of several Boards. Larry was the first person in history to serve simultaneously on three different national plant society boards. Larry held memberships in over thirty national and international plant societies, in many of which he was a Life Member. He was awarded the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) Distinguished Service Award in 1996. In November of 2000 he was awarded Emeritus Judge status by the American Iris Society.

Larry was founder of the Nebraska Daylily Society and a Director. He was a charter member of the American Hosta Society and also Director of the Tall Bearded Iris Society. He was always ready to give programs or show slides and give good advice when asked.

Larry died on September 10, 2001, after a lingering illness. He is buried in Silver Ridge Cemetery near Ponca and near the Silvercreek farmstead where he was born. Larry will be missed by his many friends throughout the plant world. 

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KEITH KEPPEL

P.O. BOX 18154 SALEM, OR 97305

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2002

TALL BEARDED

BALDERDASH M 36" (Night Game sib X Braggadocio) Buff peach standards, falls washed and shaded imperial purple, tile red beards. #95-54A. . . . \$40.00

BEL ESPRIT M 40" ((Florida Orange x Flashpoint sdlg.) x Island Dancer) X Fogbound) "Dark-top" with rose grey standards, purple base and center shading; falls parchment, beards solid mandarin red. #96-29D. . . . \$40.00

CHARLESTON M 42" ((Gallant Rogue x (Foreign Accent sib x Rustic Dance sdlg.)) X 88-40A "Skunk") White ground plic, petals bordered blue violet, deeper on falls. Ruffled, laced. #92-47E. . . . \$40.00

CRYSTAL GAZER M 34" (Lotus Land X Fogbound) Pastel reverse bitone, medium violet blue shading to silvery lilac white in falls; beards frosted lavender to peach. #96-45D. . . . \$40.00

GAME PLAN M 37" ((Night Game x (((Winemaster x Congratulations) x Faraway Places) x (Faraway Places x Heathen))) X (Jolt x Florida Orange sdlg.)) Toasted orange to pumpkin, falls infused bronze yellow. Beards bright tomato to terracotta. #95-39A. . . . \$40.00

INSIDE TRACK ML 36" ((Rosarita x Rancho Rose sdlg. x Gigolo)) X 88-40A "Skunk") Solid blackish plum standards, white falls with matching band; beards dark blue. #92-43B. . . . \$40.00

KITTY KAY ML 37" (Coming Up Roses X (Social Event x Femme Fatale)) Exquisitely ruffled opera pink, beards tipped pale pink. #92-102G. . . . \$45.00

OPEN SEA ML 37" (Big Sky X Jazz Me Blue) Very large, strongly ruffled medium blue self; inconspicuous blue and yellow beards. #93-90A. . . . \$40.00

OPPOSING FORCES M 36" (Suspicion X (Spring Shower x Twilight Blaze sdlg.)) Pinkish grey standards shaded veronica violet; falls cream to pinkish ivory, hafts tan yellow. Clashing solid, bright orange beards give striking contrast. Ruffled. #96-19D. . . . \$45.00

SECRET SERVICE ML 42" ((Night Game x ((Tomorrow's Child x (Show Biz x Villain)) x Gallant Rogue)) X Romantic Evening) Smoky greenish yellow to grey standards, eggplant black falls, smoked orange beards. #95-69B. . . . \$45.00

WINTRY SKY EM 36" (Crowned Heads X (Spring Shower x Modern Times)) Strong violet blue standards lighter toward edge; cool white falls, shadowy violet blue throat; cream-frosted blue-based beards. #95-14A. . . . \$45.00

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

DUDE EM 25" (Flights of Fancy X Brash) Luminata-plicata blend: smoky rose lilac, pyrethrum, brighter lime yellow and rosy maroon. #96-6C. . . . \$20.00

JERSEY CREAM M 26" (Fancy Woman X Jabal) Warm cream white glaciata, cream to orange yellow beards. Show stalks. #97-45N. . . . \$20.00

JUMP START M 23" (((Candy Floss sib x Orange Tiger) x (Orange Tiger x Chanted)) X pod parent of Game Plan) Dark wine standards, burgundy black falls, and intense burnt orange beards. Ruffled, somewhat globular form, striking reddish purple leaf bases. #97-47B. . . . \$20.00

RUBY SLIPPERS M 22" (sib to Jump Start) Ruffled wine standards, flared velvety dark wine falls, solid orange red beards. #97-47D. . . . \$20.00

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DOLLOP E 11" (Rebus X Music) White, faintly plic-edged light lavender blue, strong violet blue style arms. Yellow beards. #97-14B. **\$15.00**

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CHARLESTON



BEL ESPRIT



GAME PLAN




WINTRY SKY

In Memoriam: Earl Hall

by Lloyd Zurbrigg, North Carolina

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY LOST A VALUABLE MEMBER and hybridizer with the death of Earl Hall of West Alexandria, Ohio. Earl and his wife Dorothy (namesake of QUEEN DOROTHY, Hall '84) kept a perennial garden open for public business. The featured plants were the irises, and Earl was devoted to improving the reblooming and median bearded ones. With his powerful and mischievous smile, Earl had little trouble persuading me to come from Virginia to see his seedlings. There were hundreds of them in raised rows, grown with steer manure, and it was fun indeed to look them over and make new crosses.

Earl won the Cook-Douglas Award in '98 with LITTLE SHOWOFF, a cold white with blue beards, and a reliable remontant in warmer climates. JEWEL BABY won the Award of Merit in '89; this is a silky dark violet SDB which also was a runner up for the Cook-Douglas Award. Although Earl's tall bearded remontants did not win top awards, some of them are at the top of the reblooming iris popularity poll. They are very valuable in the more northern, mid-western and eastern areas. QUEEN DOROTHY, a violet on white plicata, has set some records for volume of rebloom. PINK ATTRACTION established a name for itself as the best pink rebloomer in the above areas, and has been much used by other hybridizers. MATRIX, a pale cream plicata, serves well as a foil to brighter colors; it has superb form and is an important parent.

Earl was always active in AIS, and had just returned from an AIS meeting when he suffered his first stroke. We shall miss that great smile and the kind man who wore it so well. 

Meet the New RUDs

For 2002



Robert Sawyer, Region 1

Bob Sawyer, a native of Maine, served in the United States Submarine Force. While serving his country, he earned a BS degree and a commission in the US Navy. Bob retired in 1980 after twenty-seven years of service.

As a young lad he was introduced to irises by his mother, when she sent six varieties of iris to place in the yard of his home in 1977. His favorite was Lothario, which enjoys a place in his garden to this day. Needless to say, these irises provided the incentive to get him started. In 1982 he joined the American Iris Society and automatically became a member of the Connecticut Iris Society. Shirley Varmette told Bob that his mother was the northernmost American Iris Society member in Region One. The property owned by his parents bordered the St. John River and many canoeists who were traveling the Alligash waterway stopped to visit the iris garden.

In 1983 Bob took a position in Maine with a naval architecture and engineering consulting firm. He stayed with this firm for fifteen years before retiring the second and last time. When making the move back to Maine he brought his irises along, all 62 varieties of them. They were planted in the yard of the home he was purchasing in Harpswell. He immediately joined the Maine Iris Society and from that point on his iris garden grew dramatically as did his involvement in the world of irises.

By 1991 Bob was a past president of the Maine Iris Society, had played a key role in hosting the 1990 JI National Convention, had been show chairperson of several iris shows, and had started taking pictures of irises. He was instrumental in the Maine Iris Society's participation in the Portland Flower Show. He was interested in becoming an AIS judge, and the garden with over 200 varieties of irises was having a problem with space.

Bob started doing presentations around the area in 1998 as a way to tell people about irises. He became the chairperson of the Maine Iris Society's presentation of irises in the Portland Flower Show. He developed handouts showing how to plant irises and how to deal with iris problems.

Bob's garden now has over 400 varieties of iris and is still growing (space is still a problem). The garden is centered around antique irises, but has every kind of iris that will grow in this area and more are tried every year. There is a Dykes Medal row with all but four that just will not survive here. There is also a good start on a Morgan/Morgan-Wood Award row. He has recently started hybridizing and it will be interesting to see where this leads.

Some of the awards he has earned at Maine Iris Society Shows are: Best MDB, Best SDB, Best MTB, Best Historic, Best Specie, Best Siberian (Currier McEwen Award), Best Specimen of Show, and the Silver and Bronze Medals for Horticultural Sweepstakes.

Bob is interested in AIS membership and wants to find ways to educate people about our society. People must be exposed to us before they decide to join.

What does Barbara, Bob's bride of 44 years, think about the garden? Her comment is "It's the other woman, and her name is IRIS."



Donna James, Region 2

I was born and grew up on a small Central New York farm. I am the youngest of 12 children. My mother had a "green thumb." She grew iris around the foundation of the old farmhouse, and always referred to iris as the "poor man's orchid." Out of necessity, we always grew and canned our own vegetables, so work with dirt and farming were ingrained in my blood.

I have been married to Ron, my husband and best friend, for 39 years. Ron has MS and Parkinson's Disease, which has changed our lives! We have two sons, Kevin and his family in Georgia, and Scott and family, who live near us; and we have an adopted son, Brain, who lives with his family in Australia. I am the proud grandparent of six and great-grandparent of two... and the slave of two cats and a dog.

Ron and I own and operate Enchantment Acres Flower Farm, a medium-sized farm specializing in iris, daylilies, and hosta. I also work full-time as an in-school suspension supervisor, dealing with regular and problem students in grades 7-12. I am a committee member of

“Character Development for ALL Children” in our community; students – like all people – need to know they are cared about!

After my own children were grown, I went back to school and got a BS in Art Education. I have been active in the Central New York Iris Society for over 12 years. My dear friends, Millie Columbus and Lillian Gristwood, gave me an iris membership for Christmas one year; I’ve had the “iris fever” ever since. I have served as area chair and vice-president, and I have headed numerous committees and helped organize “HIPS Happening,” the 2000 mini-convention. On the state level, I have served as Vice-President-Head of Round Robin, Membership Chair, and Director. Last year I was honored with Region 2’s Leadership Award.

I am presently President of the union at work, Secretary of the American Legion Ladies’ Auxiliary, and on a committee called “Christmas for Veterans.” (We collect and distribute gifts for homeless veterans and long-term hospital veterans.)

In my spare time, I love to do watercolor paintings of my garden, design gardens, cook and entertain, and decorate for Christmas. I read avidly, and I enjoy visits with my mentor, Sara Marley. I am looking forward to serving as RVP of Region 2 and attending my second National Convention. Most of all, I feel lucky to live in a free country, working with the people, gardens, and flower that are important ingredients of our future.



Jay Holcomb, Region 3

Jay is a native of Connecticut, and received his Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Connecticut. He moved to Pennsylvania to attend graduate school at Penn State and has never gotten back to Connecticut to live. He has been living in Pennsylvania for the last 25 years while he has been on the faculty at Penn State as Professor of Floriculture.

His interest in iris seems to have been inherited. His grandmother had lovely iris gardens in Connecticut when he was growing up. Later, his parents continued the tradition of an iris garden. In the early 1980s Jay’s vegetable garden started getting smaller as his flower garden was getting larger because of added iris. The first iris added were those from his mother’s garden. The next were TBs from commercial gardens like Schreiner’s. He found out about an iris show that was organized by the Susquehanna Iris Society and while wandering around the show was asked

to join the Susquehanna Society, which he did.

Participation in the society has meant increasing the types and cultivars of iris grown in the garden and making an effort to participate in all the Iris Shows. The next step was joining AIS and attending his first Convention. His interest in iris has continued to grow and he has attended several Conventions. Jay and his wife served as the Registrars for the AIS Conventions in 1995 and 2001.

Jay's wife, Brenda, works as a staff assistant at Penn State. When the weather is nice and not too hot, she enjoys looking at the iris and will help with the weeding, but that is as far as her interest in iris goes.

Jay is looking forward to serving as RVP and hopes to do a good job serving Region 3.



Joyce Thrift, Region 5

As long as Joyce can remember, she has been among flowers both in her family's yards and the surrounding woodlands, streams, lakes, and forests. She was born into a farming family with 6 brothers and 5 sisters in Baker County, Florida. She married Bufort Thrift when he returned home from the Army, after serving in the European Theater throughout World War II.

They made their home in Charlton County, Georgia, and were blessed with a daughter Penny and a son Bufort Jr. They have given them 5 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Joyce had been an AIS and SLI member as well being on an AIS Louisiana Iris Robin for several years, when husband Bufort passed away in 1996. Her fellow LA Robin members urged her to become active in the AIS, as several of them had lost their mates and said the wonderful people and beautiful gardens would be a blessing. She has found both to be true.

She, her daughter Penny, and great-granddaughter Jessica attended the Region 5 meeting in Spartanburg, SC, in 1996. Claire Honkanen asked them to try to start an AIS affiliate in their area. In the spring of 1997, a news article was run in *The Florida & Georgia Times Union* as well as several local county newspapers. They hoped for the required 12 people to show up and were ecstatic when 21 people came, from 7 different counties in Florida and Georgia. Joyce served as president of the "Florida-Georgia Iris Society" (FLAGA) when it was organized in August of 1997. FLAGA has 35 active AIS members at present, and will host the

AIS Region 5 Spring Meeting in Macclenny, FL, on April 5 & 6, 2002.

Joyce has been blessed to be able to serve the Lord in Moniac Baptist Church for many years; has served as Youth Chairman for Region 5; is an AIS Garden Judge; belongs to the Society for Louisiana Iris and most of the AIS Sections; loves to give programs anywhere she is asked, on any of the Iris FLAGA has had success growing and blooming; looks forward to any Iris Convention she is able to attend; and prays Region 5 will be alive and healthy when her tenure as RVP is completed.



Keith A. Smith, Region 17

I was born and grew up in McAllen, Texas (no bearded irises but a lot of tropical plants to enjoy). Studied Civil Engineering and received a B.S. degree from Texas Tech University. After college I joined the Civil Engineering Corps, U.S. Navy (Seabees). After the Navy, I took a temporary job with the City of Fort Worth as a traffic engineer. It took 22 years to leave the City,

and during that stay I was an Assistant to the City Manager and Public Works Director. It was during this time that I was introduced to bearded irises. A rental house that we bought had some irises that bloomed every year without any care. I transplanted some of them to my yard and was amazed at the bloom and growth with a little attention. For a birthday gift my wife, Margaret Ann, ordered an assortment of irises from a mail-order house. I have been hooked ever since.

In the 1980s I worked with the Dallas Area Rapid Transit on the design and construction of their light rail and HOV projects. I retired from DART in July of 2001 with the plan that I would find a job on the Fort Worth side of the DFW Metroplex. So far the only job has been in my own yard and I have not looked any further.

In the middle 80s I was introduced to the Fort Worth Iris Society through their show, and I found their meetings and programs interesting. By 1991 I was given the job of Guest Iris Chairman for the upcoming AIS Convention and also elected President of the club. The Chairman of the convention passed away, leaving the need to find a new chairman. When the club asked that I take on the chairman's duties, I agreed as long as they elected a new president. They in turn elected my wife, Margaret Ann, as president.

With the 1993 convention rapidly approaching the challenge of financing and planning the convention was on top of us. The Fort Worth

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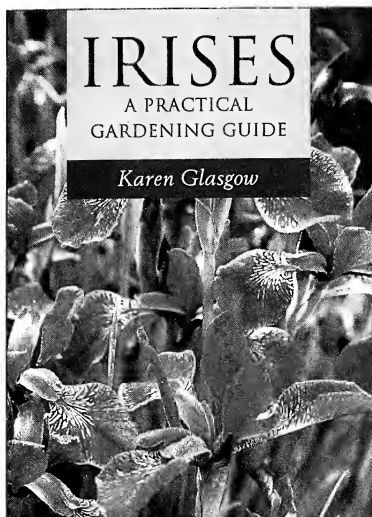
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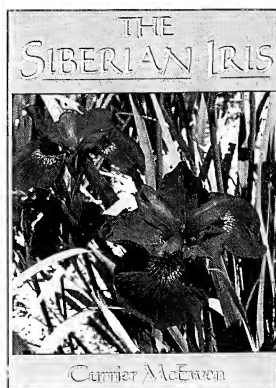
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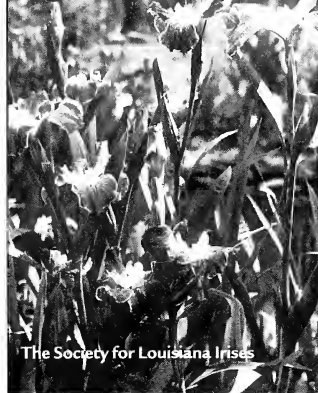
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Iris Society met the challenge and with the help of the region we had a successful convention. During the same time I became an iris judge, and in the mid 90's I was appointed Chairman of Judges for Region 17.

I have refrained from other AIS duties, but with retirement at hand, this time I did not object and am looking forward to this opportunity to serve as the Region 17 RVP.

Mary R. Townsend, Region 19

Always an avid gardener, Mary Townsend became an iris lover immediately after having met the late Frank Carr, hybridizer of PONTIFF, ROYAL BLESSING, RAVEN ROCK, and POINT BREEZE. Before visiting Frank's tiny garden in Bordentown, New Jersey, Mary thought irises came only in yellow and blue; however, his postage stamp-size garden was indeed a rainbow of color, with splashes of purples, violets, reds, pinks, oranges, and even browns everywhere. As part of his tour, Frank showed Mary how hybridizers cross-pollinate irises, or "got down to the nitty gritty," as Frank called it. Later, when Frank offered the club some of his rhizomes for sale, Mary bought one of each TB variety and, thus, planted her first iris garden in her back yard. They all bloomed the next year, and Mary was hooked, eventually discovering medians, siberians, and species. That was well over fifteen years ago, and Mary, now an AIS garden judge, has devoted her gardens almost exclusively to the iris, experimenting now with Japanese and Louisianas as well.

Mary lives in Pemberton, New Jersey, with her husband Ed, who has from the beginning supported her love of iris and iris gardening by constructing new raised beds and weeding occasionally. Ed's biggest contribution, however, is finding ways to keep Greta, their spirited four-year-old German short-haired pointer, out of the beds. Thirty years in education, she is the Supervisor of English and Communication Arts at Northern Burlington County Regional Schools, grades 7-12, in nearby Mansfield Township. She's working on her second Masters degree and expects to have her project in educational administration and curriculum completed in May.



Betty Roberts, Region 20

Betty started growing irises in the early 1960's when her mother-in-law sent her iris rhizomes and daylilies from Georgia for her new garden in Albuquerque. She joined AIS in 1972 and enjoyed mentors Pat Clauser, Lillian Gould, Howard and Irene Shockey, Frank Kalich, Bonnie Lowenstein, Gladys O'Kelly, Valerie White, and Janice Wilson, several of whom left their mark in the AIS history books. Betty served as New Mexico Iris Society President and went on to become an iris judge and is at present an Active Master judge.

Betty is a retired elementary school teacher (she taught first grade for the last 12 years of her career in New Mexico). She and husband Ned, a noted daylily hybridizer specializing in spiders and unusual forms, are the parents of twin daughters, Betty and Ellen, and grandparents of Allison and Nathan.

Betty and Ned relocated to Colorado Springs in September of 1995 in order to be close to their first grandchild. Betty found herself in the midst of the planning committee for the Denver 1998 AIS national convention and undertook the table centerpieces chairmanship. At the same time, she took over the show reigns for Elmohr Iris Society and served in this capacity for four years. She also assumed the vice-presidency and enjoyed planning programs featuring such noted irisarians as Terry Aitken, Paul Black, Keith Keppel, and Bob Schreiner.

Husband Ned laments the short growing season in Colorado, but Betty enjoys the sunshine in their new garden at nearly 7000 feet. Growing irises in a new community has been rewarding as Betty has won two best in show awards and a silver medal since moving to Colorado. She also enjoys exhibiting in the design division and is a frequent winner. In addition to being an iris judge, Betty is a daylily garden and exhibitions judge and instructor, a rose judge and Consulting Rosarian, and a National Garden Clubs Master Judge. As RVP for Region 20, Betty looks forward to working with fellow iris lovers.



Eye Shadow Irises

(See story pg. 20)

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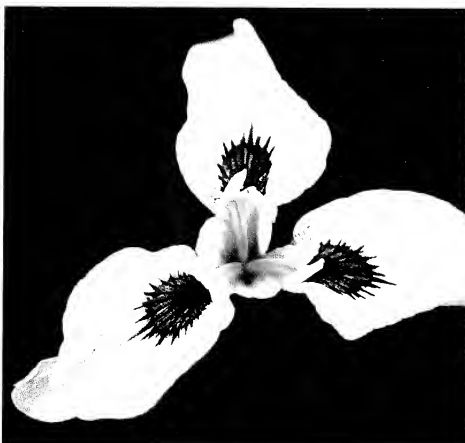
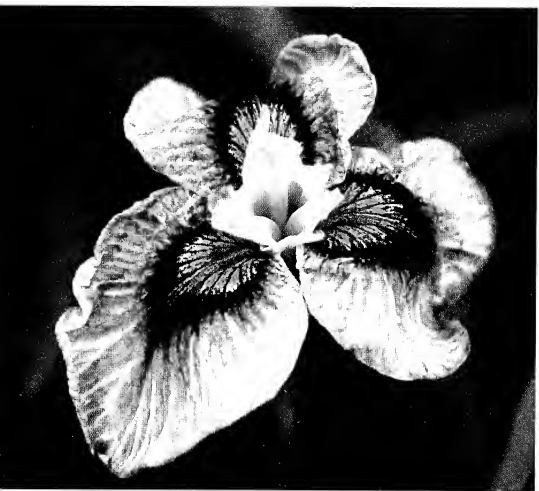
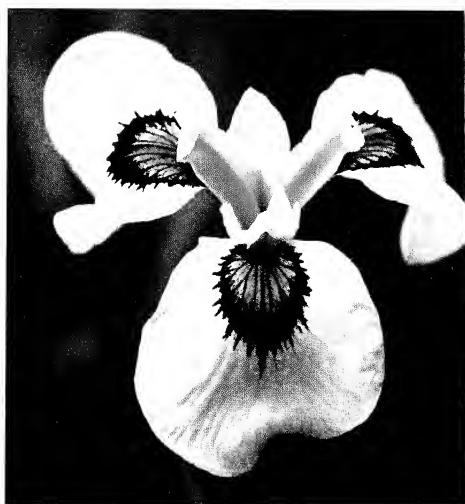
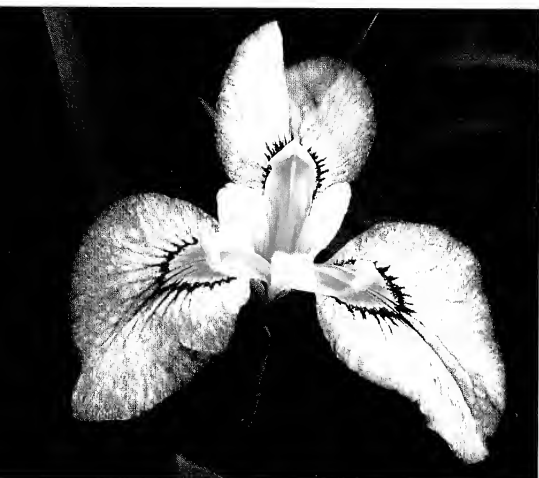
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All photos Shimizu



KIKUMAKURA



RYUGAN



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KOURYU



Eugene Kalkwarf, Region 21

Gene was born on a farm northeast of Crete, Nebraska. He lived there until he was 19, at which time he entered the US Army for 19 months, spending a year on Okinawa. Upon his return, he went to work for the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Company where he spent 41 years, retiring in 1989.

He became interested in iris in 1978, after visiting Arnold Schliefert's Garden at Murdock, Nebraska. His first year was not too good, due to rot from not planting them in the proper place. He became acquainted with Allen Ensminger, who encouraged him to continue growing irises, and it was due to Allen's encouragement that his hobby flourished over the years. Gene's Emerald Valley Iris Garden is located 7 miles west of Lincoln, in Emerald, Nebraska, where he invites the public to view his over 600 varieties of cultivars.

In the fall of 1979, he became a member of Region 21 and the American Iris Society. Shortly after that, the Lincoln Iris Society was formed. One of Gene's most memorable times was when his iris garden was on tour for the 1990 National Convention.

Gene has served as Vice President, Treasurer, and President of the Lincoln Iris Society, and is currently serving once again as President. He became a judge in 1984, and a Master Judge in 1999. He has also served as Treasurer of Region 21, and has been on the Board of Directors as well as Assistant RVP the past 3 years.

Gene loves all types of irises, and grows some Japanese, Spuria, and Siberians in addition to bearded. In 1990, he introduced EMERALD SKIES, a tall bearded, and in 2000 he introduced PUG, an MTB. He has attended many National Conventions, beginning in 1979, and states that he has met many wonderful people over the years.



Patricia Randall, Region 23

Pat Randall was born in Bayard, Nebraska, attended country schools within the North Platte Valley area, and graduated from Lyman, Nebraska, High School in 1960. She tells us:


I lived on a farm the first 45 years of my life before relocating to New Mexico in 1986. Farm life engenders the full scope of growing crops, nurturing small orchards, vegetable gardens, and

even a few beds of posies for beauty and pleasure, so gardening was no stranger, even in my younger years. After my marriage to John Randall I lived on a farm in the Bayard, Nebraska, area for 25 years.

An advertisement in the local newspaper (the *Bayard Transcript*) in 1972 featured five iris rhizomes for \$1.00. The iris were in full bloom, so I was able to walk the rows and select personal favorites. With a purchase of \$5.00, plus numerous extras, my iris hobby was born. Before relocating to New Mexico I grew around 750 varieties, which included some of all the bearded iris types. I did not, at that time, experiment with any of the beardless or arilbred iris.

I was instrumental in organizing the Trails West Iris Society of Western Nebraska in July of 1979, which reached affiliate status in 1980; our first annual iris show and rhizome sale were also held that year. With the support and efforts of the society membership and personnel from the University of Nebraska, we were able to establish an Iris Display Garden on the grounds of the University of Nebraska's Panhandle Station located north of Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The bed is maintained by the Society members and is featured each year during the Panhandle Station Spring Tour.

Since moving to New Mexico in June of 1986, I have enjoyed membership in the three local societies and have served in nearly all of the offices for each, as well as serving on numerous committees. Howard Shockey (RVP of Region 23 at the time of our move) and his wife Irene welcomed me to New Mexico with several varieties of tall bearded and arilbred iris, and the "iris virus" spread to our new backyard. I grow many types of bearded and beardless iris. My husband is my right hand assistant with the growing, digging and general care of the iris.

Other activities include support and membership in the Keep New Mexico Beautiful organization, judging duties (AIS garden judge), and current responsibilities as the editor of the Aril Society International newsletter. Hobbies include (other than growing 400+ iris) reading, genealogy, ceramics, and porcelain dolls. 

Visit our Website:
www.irises.org

Design Corner

Wandering Outside the Lines

By Carolyn Hawkins, Georgia



AN YOU REMEMBER YOUR FIRST FINGER PAINTING? CAN YOU remember your first coloring book, and that no one cared if you went over the lines? Then as you grew older everyone encouraged you to color inside the lines. What I would ask you to do is to go back to that two-year-old time and wander outside the lines. Exaggerate! Experiment! Imagine!: Work outside the box!

Creativity is an ongoing process available in every aspect of our lives, but we have become limited by the perceptions developed through our life experiences. If we can block out these perceptions and return to the freedom of thought and lack of responsibility we had as children, the possibilities are unlimited.

With flower designs there are limitations, of course, just in the mechanics of creating. With creativity in mind, view the designs done by Fran Wittgartner of Castle Rock, Colorado. Fran is a Design Instructor for National Garden Clubs, Inc., and shared her expertise and original ideas at a judge's symposium. Her husband constructed many of the wooden shapes to allow her the opportunity to use innovative staging for her designs. These "frames" give a layered approach and add dimension and form to her exhibit. The first design uses Dutch iris and assorted foliage with angles and circles. The large open space is itself a form that gives balance to the design. There is depth from front to back, accomplished through the placement of the components.


The second design by Fran has assorted foliage, willow, sea fans, Dutch iris, and an unidentified smaller pink flower. These plant materials are traditional design elements, but placed in a non-traditional position on the white and lavender forms. Color plays an important part in the appeal to the viewer, and a very peaceful and pleasing composition is created.

The third design is a creative design with parallel characteristics. The contrast of colors and textures, the clean-cut lines, and the skill of

Janice Hull all contribute to a striking and imposing composition. The combination of dock, hosta and Dutch iris made it a viewers' delight and a favorite in a recent show held in Columbia, South Carolina.

The fourth design was done by Hallie Brown of Stone Mountain, Georgia. She very ingeniously cut up a black plastic plate into the various parts, and used them as components to enhance the iris and the balance of the overall design. The driftwood placed in front of the container stabilizes the design. The tall material with curls is a dried group of stems called "Ting Ting", sprayed with black paint.

As the upcoming show design classes are being assigned, why not give some the simple Class Description of "a creative design" and of course list the space allotted, table height or pedestal, etc. Also describe the background (as the design could fade away in a busy pattern). If possible, suggest that a background may be used and provided by the competitor. Sign up for one of these creative designs, try the creative process and see what happens. Practice will improve all efforts, and the opportunities are there for those who search for them. Create for your home, as well as for the flower show. Practice and try different components, positions, and colors. And remember to color outside the lines!

Some outstanding designs are featured in this article. I hope you have enjoyed such creativity as these designs exhibit. I also hope that you will be inspired to do something similar in your show in 2002. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact: Carolyn Hawkins, AIS Judge and National Garden Clubs, Inc., Liaison; 7329 Kendel Court; Jonesboro, GA 30236; or crh9999@aol.com. 

Your Bulletin Mailing Label

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100 Favorite Iris

2002 Tall Bearded Symposium

Compiled by *Gerry Snyder*

Below are the results of the Tall Bearded Iris Symposium ballot, which was included in the July 2001 AIS Bulletin. Shown is the ranking for 2001 and 2002. All AIS members were eligible to vote, not just judges.

2001	2002	Total	Cultivar	Hybridizer	Year	Season	Height	Color
1	1	620	DUSKY CHALLENGER	Schreiner	'86	M-L	39"	dark purple
3	2	488	JESSE'S SONG	B. Williamson	'83	M	36"	wht. & vio. plicata
2	3	445	SILVERADO	Schreiner	'87	M	38"	lt. silver blue
5	4	419	CONJURATION	M. Byers	'89	M-L	36"	wht. & vio. wht. horns
7	5	353	TITAN'S GLORY	Schreiner	'81	E-M	37"	dark violet
4	6	344	BEVERLY SILLS	B. Hager	'79	M	36"	pink
10	7	332	STEPPING OUT	Schreiner	'64	M-L	38"	wht. & vio. plicata
6	8	323	THORNBIRD	M. Byers	'89	M	35"	ecru tan vio. horns
8	9	322	EDITH WOLFORD	B. Hager	'86	M	40"	yell. S.; blue-vio. F.
15	10	321	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN	L. Lauer	'93	E-M	40"	off wht. S./med. bl.F
9	11	309	HONKY TONK BLUES	Schreiner	'88	M	37"	hyacinth blue
14	12	301	BEFORE THE STORM	S. Innerst	'89	M	36"	near black
13	13	297	HELLO DARKNESS	Schreiner	'93	E-M	37"	purple black
12	14	294	VANITY	B. Hager	'75	E-L	36"	pink
11	15	291	LADY FRIEND	J. Ghio	'81	VE-E	38"	garnet red
16	16	272	YAQUINA BLUE	Schreiner	'92	M	37"	medium blue
20	17	243	SUPREME SULTAN	Schreiner	'88	M-L	40"	yell. S.; crimson F.
21	18	237	MARY FRANCES	L. Gaulter	'72	M	38"	blue-orchid
18	19	229	SKATING PARTY	L. Gaulter	'83	M-L	40"	white
19	20	221	LACED COTTON	Schreiner	'80	M-L	34"	white
22	21	220	MESMERIZER	M. Byers	'91	M	36"	white/whiteflounces
17	22	219	VICTORIA FALLS	Schreiner	'77	E-L	40"	blue; wht. spot on F.
32	23	218	CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE	D. Niswonger	'87	M	33"	pink & apricot
28	24	216	SONG OF NORWAY	W. Luhn	'79	M-L	38"	powder blue
24	25	214	SUPERSTITION	Schreiner	'77	M	36"	maroon black
33	26	212	CELEBRATION SONG	Schreiner	'93	E-M-L	37"	apricot-pink S. blue-lavender falls
26	26	212	GOING MY WAY	J. Gibson	'72	M	37"	wht. & vio. plicata
22	28	206	IMMORTALITY	L. Zurbrigg	'84	M&Re	30"	white
31	29	193	ACOMA	T. Magee	'90	E	30"	pale bl./iv. vio. plc
50	29	193	CLARENCE	L. Zurbrigg	'91	M&Re	35"	white S.; lt. blue
29	31	185	BREAKERS	Schreiner	'86	M	36"	medium blue
27	32	181	JOYCE TERRY	T. Muhlestein	'74	M-L	38"	yell. & wht. yell. edge
34	33	176	MYSTIQUE	J. Ghio	'75	E-L	36"	lt. blue S.; dk. blue F
25	34	171	BOOGIE WOOGIE	H. Nichols	'93	M-L	36"	wht. S./F. cldy. vio.
58	35	159	JURASSIC PARK	L. Lauer	'95	EM	36"	yellow S. purple F.
38	36	156	GAY PARASOL	Schreiner	'74	M	35"	lav. wht./rose violet

2001	2002	Total	Cultivar	Hybridizer	Year	Season	Height	Color
30	37	154	RUSTLER	K. Keppel	'88	M	37"	gold-brown
39	38	149	AFTERNOON DELIGHT	R. Ernst	'85	M	40"	tan-gold/ maroon
39	39	148	CITY LIGHTS	M. Dunn	'91	M	37"	blue/white spot on F.
36	40	141	DAZZLING GOLD	D.C. Anderson	'81	M	29"	yell.veined brown
43	41	140	EVERYTHING PLUS	D. Niswonger	'84	M	34"	blue-wht. & vio. plic
42	42	139	BRIDE'S HALO	H. Mohr	'73	E-L	36"	white edged yellow
44	43	136	FANCY WOMAN	K. Keppel	'95	VE-EM	38"	lilac purple luminata
41	43	136	TIGER HONEY	B. Kasperek	'94	EM	38"	butterscotch-caramel w/ wht. & yel. streaks
37	45	135	RARE TREAT	Schreiner	'87	E-M	34"	blue & white plicata
35	45	135	SKY HOOKS	M. Osborne	'80	M	36"	soft yell.; vio. horn
48	47	134	ANNA BELLE BABSON	B. Hager	'85	M	36"	bright pink
47	47	134	BEWILDERBEAST	B. Kasperek	'95	M	30"	mauve streaked silver
62	49	133	CODICIL	S. Innerst	'85	M-L	32"	lt. blue black beard
68	50	132	DIABOLIQUE	Schreiner	'97	ML	38"	garnet purple
61	51	131	GYPSY ROMANCE	Schreiner	'94	M-L	37"	violet raspberry
44	52	129	CAMELOT ROSE	C. Tompkins	'65	M-L	30"	lilac/burgundy
	53	127	WORLD PREMIER	Schreiner	'98	ML	37"	bl. wht. S, dk. bl. violet F w wht. rim
54	54	125	RHONDA FLEMING	R. Mullin	'93	M-L	35"	white banded lilac
53	54	125	SWEET MUSETTE	Schreiner	'86	M-L	37"	flamingo/rose
68	56	122	SWINGTOWN	Schreiner	'96	L	36"	mulberry-claret
65	57	120	ROMANTIC EVENING	J. Ghio	'96	EL	36"	lilac S, dk red-purple F
62	58	119	BABBLING BROOK	K. Keppel	'66	M	38"	light blue
54	59	118	FRINGE BENEFITS	B. Hager	'88	M	30"	orange
49	59	118	PERSIAN BERRY	L. Gaultier	'77	M	35"	mulberry-lavender
73	61	116	LOCAL COLOR	K. Keppel	'96	M	40"	dk. violet S, darker F
68	62	115	BLACK TIE AFFAIR	Schreiner	'93	M	36"	inky black
86	63	112	CROWNED HEADS	K. Keppel	'97	M	38"	wistaria S, lt. blue F.
51	63	112	POND LILY	Ev. Jones	'95	M	38"	violet blended pink
62	65	110	COPPER CLASSIC	E. Roderick	'75	L	30"	burnt orange
44	66	109	QUEEN IN CALICO	J. Gibson	'80	M	34"	apricot/red vio. plic
51	67	105	RINGO	G. Shoop	'79	M	38"	white/grape edge
73	68	103	LEMON MIST	N. Rudolph	'72	E	32"	lemon yellow
71	69	102	BAYBERRY CANDLE	C. DeForest	'69	M	36"	chart.,gold & olive
57	69	102	OKTOBERFEST	W. Maryott	'87	M	37"	red-orange
58	69	102	OWYHEE DESERT	L. Pinkston	'97	ML	36"	white S; rusty F w white rays, rim
75	72	101	GYPSY WOMAN	Schreiner	'85	E-M	35"	yell.S; cream F.
	72	101	POEM OF ECSTASY	B. Hager	'97	M	36"	peach pink S, deep lavender F
	74	100	BOYSENBERRY BUTTERCUP	L. Lauer	'97	EM	37"	lt. creamy yellow S, lavender F w lt rim
84	75	99	BLENHEIM ROYAL	Schreiner	'90	M	38"	medium blue
60	75	99	EAGLE'S FLIGHT	Schreiner	'86	E-M	35"	blue & white plicat
	75	99	FEATURE ATTRACTION	Schreiner	'94	L	37"	lavender-grape, white signal lead
77	75	99	LULLABY OF SPRING	Schreiner	'87	E-M	38"	mimosa yell./mauve
96	79	98	ARCTIC EXPRESS	J. Gatty	'96	EM	38"	pure white
88	79	98	CLASSIC LOOK	Schreiner	'92	E-M	36"	white w/blue marks
72	79	98	LORILEE	Schreiner	'81	M-L	37"	rose-orchid
54	82	97	MULLED WINE	K. Keppel	'82	L	36"	raspberry-burgundy

<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Cultivar</i>	<i>Hybridizer</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Season</i>	<i>Height</i>	<i>Color</i>
81	83	95	NIGHT RULER	Schreiner	'90	M	39"	dark purple
88	83	95	OLYMPIAD	J. Ghio	'84	E-L	38"	pale blue
82	83	95	PROUD TRADITION	Schreiner	'90	E-M	36"	lt. blue S, m. blue F
84	86	94	HOLY NIGHT	K. Mohr	'83	E	35"	deep violet purple
79	86	94	THRILLER	Schreiner	'88	M-L	36"	cerise/claret
67		93	STUDY IN BLACK	G. Plough	'68	E-M	36"	red-black
79	89	92	EPICENTER	J. Ghio	'94	EM	42"	black cherry S, salmon F. edged black cherry
78	89	92	SWEETER THAN WINE	Schreiner	'88	E-M	35"	white S./royal pur. F.
91	91	91	ORANGE SLICES	D. Niswonger	'87	M	33"	light orange
86	92	89	ALTRUIST	Schreiner	'87	E-M	37"	pale blue
99	93	88	BEST BET	Schreiner	'88	E	36"	lt. blue S./dp. bl. F
94	93	88	EASTERTIME	Schreiner	'80	M-L	38"	cream/gold edges
	93	88	MIDNIGHT OIL	K. Keppel	'98	M	36"	self, darker than eggplant
99	93	88	RUFFLED BALLET	E. Roderick	'75	M-L	30"	blue wht. S.; blue F.
75	97	87	KILT LILT	J. Gibson	'70	E-M	40"	tan-gold/maroon plic.
65	98	86	CHERRY SMOKE	D. Meek	'78	M-L	34"	red black
93	98	86	SPICED TIGER	B. Kasparek	'96	EM	31"	tan S; mahog F. wh. strks
	100	85	NIGERIAN RASPBERRY	B. Kasparek	'95	M	36"	raspberry cream, purple splashes

Runners-up: DESIGNER GOWN (81), ROSETTE WINE (81), ZANDRIA (81), BUBBLING OVER (79), CHASING RAINBOWS (79), DOVER BEACH (78), GNUS FLASH (78), WENCH (78), SPLASHACATA, (72), TANZANIAN TANGERINE (72)

New to the list: WORLD PREMIER, POEM OF ECSTASY, BOYSENBERRY BUTTERCUP, FEATURE ATTRACTION, MIDNIGHT OIL, NIGERIAN RASPBERRY

Dropped from the list: ROSETTE WINE, SPIRIT WORLD, DOVER BEACH, DESIGNER GOWN, BUBBLING OVER, ZANDRIA

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Approved AIS Judges

for 2002

Key:

A: Apprentice
G: Garden
AM: Active Master
RM: Retired Master
E: Emeritus

Region 1

G Bruce Bennett
G Ruth Bennett
AM John H. Burton, II
AM Lucy G. Burton
G Paul J. Dostie
G Mrs. L. L. Doucette
AM Chandler Fulton
AM Elaine Fulton
RM Mrs. Frederick W. Gadd
G Ellen M. Gallagher
G Ada Godfrey
G William Godfrey
AM Connie M. Hall
AM Dr. Warren C. Hazelton
G Mrs. Warren C. Hazelton
RM Walter Kotyk
AM Lynn F. Markham
G Stephanie A. Markham
RM Mrs. F. J. McAlicee
E Dr. Currier McEwen
RM Marilyn R. Noyes Mollicone
AM Russell B. Moors
AM Mrs. Russell B. Moors
G David Nitka
E William H. Peck
AM Mrs. Maurice B. Pope, Jr.
A Janet Sacks
G Robert H. Sawyer
A Martin Schafer
G David Schmieder
E Mrs. David Schmieder
AM Marian H. Schmuhl
RM Robert Sobek
AM Richard Sparling
RM Shirley A. Varmette
E Kenneth M. Waite
RM Mrs. Kenneth M. Waite
RM James R. Welch
G Andrew Wheeler
G Deborah Wheeler
G John W. White
G Rebecca Wong
AM Peter J. Young
Region 2
G David Baehre

G Joanne Bassett
AM James G. Burke
AM Ruth Burke
A Clayton Crandall
A Diane Crandall
AM Marie Gerbract
RM James Gristwood
G Kathleen Guest
RM Jane I. Hall
G Donna James
A Ronald James
G Robert A. Keup
A Robert Kontak
A Virginia Kontak
G Eugene Koschara
G Mildred Koschara
G Don Lowry
G Donna J. Lowry
G Sara R. Marley
AM Wendy K. Roller
G Dr. Carolyn Schaffner
RM G. M. Schifferli
A Betty Schnellinger
G Helen B. Schueler
A Linda Sedlmayer
G Mary Jane Shanley
RM Mrs. Granger S. Smith
G Dorothy Stiefel
G Judith Tucholski
G Peter J. Weixlmann
Region 3

RM Walter C. Betzold
G Charles Conklin
A Mike Corle
A Joyce Corrin
RM George W. Gerhardt
AM Harold L. Griffie
A R. Dennis Hager
G Edmund Jay Holcomb
AM Sterling U. Innerst
G Theresa Jewell
AM Mrs. R. P. Kegerise
G Jason A. Leader
G Patricia A. Leader
G Vincent Lewonski
A Dorothy Mallozzi
AM Elwood Maltman
G Mrs. Arthur F. Martin
G Geraldine McFarland
G Robert M. McFarland
RM Mrs. Stephan Molchan
G Joan Roberts
G Ken Roberts

G June Roop
AM Elizabeth Unruh
Region 4
G Barbara Alexander
G David W. Bowen
G Pat Bowen
G Randell Bowen
G Sandra S. Bryan
G Glenna DeQuoy
G S. Herman Dennis III
G Mrs. Joseph P. Dufresne
E E. Roy Epperson
E Mrs. Frank H. J. Figge
RM Mrs. Glenn Grigg, Jr.
G Ruth Brown Holbrook
AM Walter Hoover
G L. Bruce Hornstein
AM Mrs. Paul D. Kabler
RM Nancy Karriker
G Anne Lowe
G Mike Lowe
E Clarence E. Mahan
G Barbara O. Moeller
G Bill Mull
G JaNiece Mull
G Flossie Nelson
RM Dr. Joseph B. Parker, Jr.
G Dennis C. Pearson
G Bea Rogers
G Merrick E. Shawe
G William C. Smoot
G Donald M. Spoon
G Virginia Spoon
AM Mrs. Richard D. Steele
E F. G. Stephenson
G Frances Thrash
G Ruth E. Walker
E Mrs. Andrew C. Warner
RM Dennis A. Wilkie
G Carrie Winter
G Joan R. Wood
E Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg

Region 5
G Mary T. Bolton
G Brenda P. Briley
G Patricia D. Brooks
RM Mrs. Russell Bruno
G Alma P. Burgamy
E Mrs. Wells E. Burton
G R. Lee Byous
G Ken Duke
G Marshall L. Goforth
G Carolyn R. Hawkins

RM Nina R. Hawkins
 G Mrs. Arvid Honkanen
 G Sara T. Hood
 RM Jean House
 RM Mrs. Frank L. Johnson
 G Maggie Johnson
 G Mrs. Donald E. Jones
 RM Grady Kennedy
 RM Mrs. Grady Kennedy
 G Mrs. A. J. Kirby
 G Billy J. Langston
 G Doris L. Lewallen
 AM Rev. E. L. Lineberger
 G Ted Mansfield
 G James B. McRae
 AM Michael Moller
 AM Mrs. Edward L. Paquet
 G Steve Smart
 G Wayne C. Smith, Jr.
 G Mrs. Wayne C. Smith, Jr.
 AM Robert L. Terpening
 AM Mrs. Robert L. Terpening
 G Joyce Thrift
 AM Harry Turner
 AM Joe Scott Watson
 E Mrs. A. D. Wilder
 G Fredericka R. Wilson
 AM C. E. Yearwood

Region 6

AM Robert A. Bauer
 G Otho Boone
 AM Mrs. Otho Boone
 G Dr. Charles A. Bunnell
 G Ann A. Cline
 AM John A. Coble
 G Mrs. David Colman
 AM Mrs. Harold E. Cooper
 AM James A. Copeland
 AM Jill Copeland
 RM Doris M. DeHaan
 RM Mrs. Donald Dopke
 G Alice Eich
 G Rolla L. Eich
 A Phyllis Ann Epperson
 A Elaine Ferris
 RM Marjorie S. Fillmore
 A Carol Fisher
 RM James J. Foreman
 G Douglas Fuhrmeyer
 G Joy Fuhrmeyer
 A Sheila F. Gardner
 G Dorothy L. Hartman
 G Richard Hartman
 E Emma Hobbs
 G Frances G. Holecek
 G Rose J. Holecek
 G R. M. Hollingworth
 G Howard Hughes
 G Rae J. Johnson
 G Shelly Lynn

RM Virginia Maynard
 E Lynda Miller
 AM Roger Miller
 AM Mrs. Ronald F. Miller
 G Kathy J. Moore
 AM Nona Moore
 AM Carol Morgan
 RM Marilyn N. O. Nelson
 AM Jack E. Norrick
 RM C. D. Overholser
 G Sandra L. Rawlings
 G Charles Rumbaugh
 RM John D. Rusk, Jr.
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 E Dr. Harold L. Stahly
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 AM Fred L. Taylor
 AM Eugene D. Tremmel
 G Adrian Van Heusden
 AM Joan H. Verwilt
 G Cliff Wilde
 AM Anthony Willott
 AM Mrs. Anthony Willott
 G James H. Wilson
 AM Doris Winton
 G Donna Wolford
 G Harry Wolford
 G Debby Zook

Region 7

G George Atkins
 G Mrs. George Atkins
 G Sue Ann Barnes
 AM James M. Bingham
 AM Eleanor M. Boyson
 AM Larry R. Browning
 AM Mrs. Larry R. Browning
 AM Betty Burch
 AM Carol Burch
 AM James G. Burch
 RM J. R. Collins
 RM Mrs. J. R. Collins
 E Hilda Crick
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 G Pat Eakes
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 RM Dr. Frank B. Galyon
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 G Judith P. Hunt
 G M. Dean Hunt
 AM Evelyn G. Irwin
 G Leslie D. Jobe
 G Wayne Jobe
 RM Glenna Johnson
 AM Lucy Carrington Jones

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 A Caroline S. Nave
 AM Jerry Phillips
 AM Mrs. Jerry Phillips
 G June F. Richards
 G Deborah J. Harris-Royal
 G Earnest L. Royal
 AM Gary D. Sides
 RM George D. Slade
 RM Mrs. George D. Slade
 G Steven P. Stone
 G Robert L. Strohman
 AM Willa Swack
 G Hugh Thurman
 G Mary Thurman
 AM Maynard D. Van Horn
 AM Mrs. Maynard D. Van Horn
 RM William W. Vines
 RM Mrs. W. C. Wilder
 G Betty Wilkerson
 E Phillip A. Williams

Region 8

AM Melvin Bausch
 AM Mrs. Melvin Bausch
 RM Arthur G. Blodgett
 AM Joan Cooper
 AM Mrs. R. W. Dalgard
 G W. E. Doehne
 G William C. Dougherty
 RM Mrs. Leroy Duvall
 G M. Lynne Fell
 RM Mrs. DuWayne Giefer
 RM Patrick R. Hemmer
 AM Mrs. David Hempel
 G Edwin W. Kelsey
 RM Dr. Donald Koza
 RM W. A. Machulak
 RM Mrs. W. A. Machulak
 RM Lavone R. Ney
 RM Mrs. Wilbert G. Sindt
 RM Mildred Stover
 A Marsha Vandebrake
 G Jack Worel

Region 9

RM Donovan Albers
 G Margaret G. Benson
 G John L. Bilski
 AM Orville Dickhaut
 AM Mrs. Orville Dickhaut
 G Anne Hamblin
 G Dale L. Hamblin
 A Patrick Hayden
 AM Cathy Simon Hendrickson
 G Jeanette Hensley
 G Ann Henson
 G Ernie Henson
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 RM John M. Thompson
 G Mark Timko
 AM Nancy Simon Timko
 E D. Steve Varner
 AM Jerry Wilhoit
 AM Melody Wilhoit

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RM Aline Arceneaux
 RM Mrs. C. W. Arny, Jr.
 G Elaine L. Bourque
 AM Mrs. James J. Deegan
 G Sandy Duhon
 RM Marvin A. Granger
 G Dorman Haymon
 G Ed Osteimer
 G Rusty Osteimer
 AM Mrs. Hubert Rena
 A Charles J. Walkowiak

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AM Eileen Allison
 AM Ken Baier
 AM Rose Mary Baier
 RM Donna Bowers
 RM Jerry C. Bowers
 G Claudia H. Brown
 RM Donald Chadd
 G Carol L. Coleman
 G Louisa Cone
 G Irene DeRose
 G Janet G. DeRousse
 AM R. W. Gray
 AM Mrs. R. W. Gray
 RM Robert L. Jensen
 G Carryl Meyer
 G Lucille Pinkston
 G Alverta Symes
 G Angelique Violette

Region 12

AM Hiram L. Ames
 RM D. C. Anderson
 A Susan Boyce
 G Joseph A. Brown
 RM Mrs. David E. Burton
 RM Larene B. Done
 RM Charlotte T. Easter
 G Charrell Harris
 G Jared Harris
 G B. Brad Kasperek
 G Kathie Kasperek
 G Joan R. McFadden
 G Thomas J. Miller

AM Suzanne Parry
 AM Cathy Hagan Reed
 G Lois W. Reeder
 A Leon Robertson
 AM Mrs. Merlin Tams
 AM DeRay Taylor
 RM Keith H. Wagstaff
 AM Jeffrey L. Walters
 G L. Val Wilson

Region 13

AM Ellen Abrego
 AM Thomas Abrego
 RM Patricia Adams
 AM Barbara Aitken
 AM Terry Aitken
 G Elaine Bessette
 AM Paul W. Black
 G Carole Breedlove
 AM Dr. Alan D. Brooks
 AM James R. Browne
 G Caroline Burke
 G Rita E. Butler
 G Don Clark
 G Deborah A. Cole
 AM Mrs. Joe Del Judge
 AM Joanne Mentz Derr
 RM F. Duncan Eader
 G Arnold W. Ferguson
 G Bruce Filardi
 G Lynn Finkel
 G Barbara J. Flynn
 AM Frank J. Foster
 G Debra Gillespie
 G Mildred Grow
 AM Doris K. Hale
 AM Paul Harms
 G Chad Harris
 AM Fran Hawk
 G Tom Johnson
 E Bennett C. Jones
 E Keith Keppel
 G Carla Lankow
 AM George F. Lankow
 G John W. Ludi
 G Keith McNames
 RM Duane E. Meek
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 RM Warren E. Noyes
 RM Donald L. Peterson
 A Bev Petrak
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 G William E. Plotner
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 AM Doris E. Shinn

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 E Jean G. Witt

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A Byron Aarstad
 A Louise Allison
 G Helen Bliven
 AM Carl H. Boswell
 AM Mrs. Carl H. Boswell
 G Kathy Braaten
 RM Bob Brooks
 G Anna Cadd
 G David Cadd
 AM Mrs. Jack H. Cochran
 AM Mrs. Mark Condo
 A Bruce Connell
 E Glenn F. Corlew
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 G Christine Dickinson
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 G Abe Feuerstein
 E Joseph J. Ghio
 RM Gigi Hall
 A Linda Harding
 RM Marilyn Holloway
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 G Richard Lauer
 RM Evelyn Lemire
 G Kitty Loberg
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 RM Marilyn R. Maryott
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 AM Alleah B. Middling
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 RM Capt. M. C. Osborne
 G Cloudia Owen
 G William T. Owen
 AM Fred C. Parvin

G Jean Paul
 G Joyce Ragle
 AM Lucile Ray
 AM Alan D. Robbins
 G Ollie Rust
 A Betty Smith
 G George H. Sutton
 G Margaret Sutton
 AM Richard Tasco
 RM Mrs. Sven I. Thoolen
 G Hiromi Uyeda
 G Dorlene Waite
 G F. Lee Wald
 G Howard Wald
 RM Mrs. W. G. Waters
 E Dr. John H. Weiler
 G Barbara Whitely
 G James Whitely
 A Lynn Williams
 AM Bryce Williamson
 A Ronald Wolberg
 RM Vernon Wood
 A Mary Ann Worth

Region 15

G Gail M. Barnhill
 E Mrs. William E. Barr
 AM Irene Benton
 G Peggy Carpenter
 RM Thelma H. Carrington
 G Hazel E. Carson
 RM Janice Chesnik
 G Kathy Chilton
 RM Ralph Conrad
 RM Mrs. Ralph Conrad
 G Olen Joe Daugherty
 A Cheryl Deaton
 RM Dolores Denney
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 G Eileen Fiumara
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G Catherine Boyko
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 AM Verna Laurin
 G Maureen Mark
 G Daniel P. McMillen
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 G James McMillen
 G Ken Viner

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 G Keith A. Smith
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 G Ellen Sullivan
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 G Mary Wilber
 G Diana L. Winship
 RM Mrs. Leon C. Wolford

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 G Patricia Ardisonne
 RM Mrs. August Bellagamba
 AM Harry J. Boyd
 AM Mrs. Harry J. Boyd
 G Lee Charlton
 G Paula Charlton
 RM Mrs. James Lee Chism
 G Jon Marc Cliburn
 AM Donald Domez
 AM Geneva Dellez
 G Barbara Fouts
 G Kevin Gormley
 G Rita Gormley
 G Mike Hargrove
 AM Jim Hedgecock
 AM Calvin H. Helsley
 G Nyla Hughes
 AM Vince Italian
 G Mitch Jameson
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 G Dan C. Judy
 G Judy Keisling
 G Ray Keisling
 G Joan Kellar
 RM Mrs. Edwin W. Knight
 G Doris J. Loveland
 G James E. Loveland
 G Betty Langston Macon
 RM Mrs. Robert Mark
 AM Mrs. M. J. McHugh
 G Kevin J. Morley
 AM James W. Morris
 AM Mrs. James W. Morris
 G James Murrain
 G Carolyn Needham
 G Barbara Nicodemus
 E O. D. Niswonger
 RM Katherine Perry
 A Nancy Price
 G Robert Pries
 AM Riley Probst
 RM James Rasmussen
 AM Helen E. Reynolds

RM Mrs. Robert H. Robinson
 RM Mrs. Elvan E. Roderick
 RM Elvan E. Roderick
 A Kendal Rohr
 A Cindy Rust
 A Stephanie Rust
 G Barbara Schuette
 G Mrs. Stephen Stevens
 G Steven Stevens
 AM Eric Tankesley-Clarke
 AM Robert Tankesley-Clarke
 G Mike Theissen
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 RM Annette J. Vincent
 G James W. Waddick
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 G Adrian Wills
 G Naida Wills
 G James Winzer
 A Laurie Winzer
 AM Annabelle Wiseman
 G Mary Wyss

Region 19

RM Raymond Blicharz
 A Catherine Button
 G Chun Fan
 G Erin Marie Griner
 G Joseph John Griner
 G Margaret Griner
 G Martha Ann Griner
 RM Dr. Norman H. Noe
 AM C. B. Reeves, Jr.
 AM Mrs. C. B. Reeves, Jr.
 G Raymond J. Rogers
 AM Nancy Szmuriga
 A Curtis A. Taylor
 G Mary R. Townsend
 E Elizabeth A. Wood

Region 20

G Martha Artzberger
 G Lowell Baumunk III
 G Glenna R. Chapman
 AM Duane W. Daily
 AM Kayellen R. Daily
 AM Linda M. Doty
 E Jack R. Durrance
 G Carol Eacker
 G Russell Eacker
 G Francine M. Evers
 E Catherine Long Gates
 AM Dennis B. Gates
 RM Joseph H. Hoage
 AM Mrs. Morris James
 RM Dr. Carl Jorgensen
 G John Knudson
 AM Roy G. Krug
 G Barbara Lewis
 G Lynda D. Love
 AM Thomas L. Magee

AM Suzanne McCarthy
 G Ellen McIntosh
 G Robert McIntosh
 AM David G. Miller
 G Patricia Morgan
 RM Mrs. Dwane Quinn
 AM Betty Roberts
 G Robert E. Stetson II
 G Lisa Tsiao

Region 21

AM Mickey S. Anson
 RM Aredeth J. Bailey
 G Marian Burleigh
 RM C. T. Claussen
 RM Signey Claussen
 E Allan G. Ensminger
 RM Mary Ferguson
 G Vincent Fox
 G Mrs. Vincent Fox
 RM Gene Gaddie
 AM Charles C. Hemmer
 AM Mrs. Charles C. Hemmer
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 RM Vera Hummel
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 RM Dorothy M. Johnson
 AM Eugene J. Kalkwarf
 G Christa Kohout
 G Richard Kohout
 AM Carolyn D. Lingenfelter
 G Andrew Lucas
 G James Lucas
 RM Barbara Mapes
 AM Roger P. Mazur
 G LeRoy Meininger
 A Leland H. Nelson
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 G Calvin H. Reuter
 G Viola Schreiner
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 RM Mrs. Kempton Settle
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 RM Lynn Stoll
 A Connie Vanecek
 G Dorothy Ver Hey
 G Gary E. White
 G Henry Wulf
 AM Opal Wulf

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RM Wiley Abshire
 G Ann D. Barrows
 G Linda Bell
 G James B. Bledsoe
 G Doris Boyles
 G Louise Carson
 G Peggy J. Chumley
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 RM Mrs. Dan Edelman
 G Leigh M. Ellis
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 G M. D. Faith
 G Ramona French
 G Carol Goldsberry
 AM Paul W. Gossett
 G Bonnie Hadaway
 G June P. Hardy
 AM James N. Hawley
 RM Rilla M. Hickerson
 G Greer Holland
 G MaryAnn Holman
 E Dorothy C. Howard
 AM LaVera Johnson
 G Helen Jones
 RM W. E. Jones
 RM Mrs. Charles E. Kenney
 G Mrs. Trevor Lyons
 AM Betty Lou McMartin
 G F. W. McVicker
 G Robert Medina
 G Peggy Meekins
 RM Leonard J. Michel
 RM Richard E. Morgan
 E Ronald Mullin
 A Bettie M. Nash
 E Perry L. Parrish
 G Kathy L. Poore
 G Lyle Reininger
 G Randy Renner
 G James W. Russell
 AM Marthella Shoemake
 G Aline Smith
 G Fred J. Smith
 G James K. Smith
 G Mary A. Smith
 RM Susie Smith
 RM L. D. Stayer
 RM Mrs. L. D. Stayer
 AM Philip Stonecipher
 AM Mrs. Philip Stonecipher
 G Mary G. Sullivan
 G Patricia Tanton
 A Robert Treadway
 G Mary P. Watson
 G Leeroy Will
 G Beatrice A. Williams
 G Mrs. John H. Williams

Region 23

G Karen Bergamo
 AM Mrs. Milton J. Clauser
 A Ann Colwell
 AM Bill R. Coursey
 A Helen K. Crotty
 AM Lucille Danielson

A Henry J. Day
 G Phil Doonan
 AM Sara Doonan
 G Patricia J. Feather
 AM Barbara J. Figge
 G Ken Fladager
 RM Wilma Friedline
 G Doug Goodnight
 G Dorothy Gordon
 G William S. Huey
 G Reita Jordan
 G Dr. Scott Jordan
 A Pam Lackey
 RM Mrs. Douglas Latimer
 G Tom Tadfor Little
 RM Robert A. Mallory
 G Alma S. Maxwell
 G Peter R. McGrath
 G Pegi Naranjo
 RM George A. Nickel
 AM Maxine Perkins
 G Nancy D. Pocklington
 G Patricia Randall
 A Cindy H. Rivera
 AM Mrs. Howard Shockey
 RM Mrs. Robert D. Steele
 AM Helen Stopani
 A Mrs. Pei-Lin Tien
 AM Mrs. Walter C. White

Region 24

RM B. Howard Camp
 RM Mrs. B. Howard Camp
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 G Sue Copeland
 G Jane C. Desmond
 AM T. A. Gilliam
 G Scott W. Grant
 G Clara B. Henderson
 G Billie Lynn Jones
 AM J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
 AM Mrs. J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
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 AM Mrs. Joe M. Langdon
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 AM Walter A. Moores
 AM Edith Mitchell Nevels
 G Carrie Rice
 AM Donald R. Saxton
 AM Mrs. Donald R. Saxton
 RM Sarah Scruggs
 AM Mrs. R. P. Van
 Valkenburgh

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 G Barry Blyth

AM Graeme Grosvenor
 G Bernard Pryor
 G Heather Pryor
 G John C. Taylor

Belgium

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 G John C. Russell
 RM N. K. Scopes

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AM Jean Cayeux
 RM Jean Segui

Germany

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Italy

G Anne Barbetti
 G Augusto Bianco
 G Fabio Bigazzi
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 G Maria Carla Monaco
 G Valeria Pallesi Romoki
 RM Prof. Gian Luigi Sani
 G Doralisa Ravenni Santi

Japan

AM Akira Horinaka
 G Hiroshi Shimizu



Photo: Airken

ZIGGY (Virginia Keyser, 2000) As seen at National Convention

Exhibition Certificates

for 2001

Tall Bearded

Barnard, Leo H.	L-97-24
Barrows, Ann Dee	93-G-1
Barrows, Ann Dee	93-G-3
Baumunk, Lowell	8125 Y
Baumunk, Lowell	TFVi-2
Bern, Art	626A
Brand, Dean	92-17
Brand, Dean	94-08B
Burch, Jimmy	55-2
Burch, Thomas	CXNA
Burke, Jim	Bu 95-J
Chadwick, Keith	OOH-2-6-20
Chapman, Bill, Sr.	E-4-94
Christopherson, Vincent	L5-9A
Dunn, Robert	M2141B
Dunn, Robert	M2149A
Eirich, Karen	MR16-4
Ensminger, Allan	89-59 ENS
Ensminger, Allan	96-24
Gerald, Derry	98-1
Ghio, Joe	9780A
Griner, Erin	E95-01A
Grise, Dr. William	SDL 3070
Hedgecock, Jim	L-60-A
Innerst, Sterling	4571-4
Loveland, Jim	94LMS+215
Magee, Tom	9014 A
Magee, Tom	9331
Meininger, LeRoy	94-26
Messick, Virginia	M-96-44
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Moorhead, Jerry	97-108
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Nearpass, Charlie (by Don Spoon)	84-6NP
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Parkhill, Tom	91-1303
Pinkston, Lucille	ID-ROU

Reed, Robert	LHL 1-94
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Robertson, Leon	963E
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Spoon, Don	98-427A
Spoon, Don	POTOMAC
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Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 92-227

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Hazelton, Warren	95-B-5
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Loveland, Jim	SDB 99-7
Loveland, Jim	SDB 99-10
Spoon, Don	98-9D5
Spoon, Don	99-14A
Vizvarie, C.	G. FRI.
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 01-53
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 01-81
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 2K-203

Willott, Anthony & Dorothy
**PRINCE OF
 THIEVES**

Intermediate Bearded

Cadd, Anna & David 45-92-7
 Johnson, Ben D73B
 Sutton, Michael 0-11A-IB-SARE
 Willott, Anthony & Dorothy W 01-100

Miniature Dwarf Bearded

Willott, Anthony & Dorothy W 2K-11
 Willott, Anthony & Dorothy W 2K-42
 Willott, Anthony & Dorothy W 2K-92A

Border Bearded

Cadd, Anna and David 42-92-9
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 Sutton, George G1-99

Miniature Tall Bearded

Baumunk, Lowell 873 F
 Baumunk, Lowell 880 G
 Hager, Ben Hager 6391
 Jones, Ron 2TX-R
 Loveland, Jim MTB 01-01
 Mahan, Clarence BLCR-10
 Morgan, Richard MTB-46-V
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Aril & Arilbred

Feather, Pat BXB-1
 Herman, Ben AB-98-2
 McGrath, Pete McAB 97-15
 McGrath, Pete McAB 99-99
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Eigenman, Darrell 9804-1
 Greenberg, Richard A-00-1
 Knipe, Garry XP0214A-1
 White, John PCI#16
 Wood, Vernon PCN #25
 Wood, Vernon 9867
 Wood, Vernon 9947

Louisiana

Campbell, Farron 97-367-1A
 Faith, M.D. HENRY
 ROWLAN
 Hickerson, Rilla 98-35

Morgan, Richard 677BT
 Morgan, Richard JP-1-B
 O'Connor, Patrick 01-X-9
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Japanese

Delmez, Don DLBRU
 Harris, Chad 96JG1
 Harris, Chad 96JN1
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 Smith, Stephen 98J-7-2
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 Walker, Lee 98-35-13
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Siberian

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 Hollingworth, Robert EMILY ANNE
 Hollingworth, Robert 97C8B15
 Kermode, Cynthia ReSI0101
 Norrick, Jack 946-1
 Pohlman, Neal 97-30-1
 Ryan, James 1-T-3
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 Warner, Carol 6
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 Warner, Carol 11
 Warner, Carol 12
 Warner, Carol 14
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Wilhoit, Jerry & Melody SP-01-02

Species

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 FROST
 Wheeler, Andrew 184-R6-998-1

Species-X

Aitken, Terry 97-SPEC-X-3D

Sino-Siberian

Reid, Lorena 96S44-1D

Versicolor

Hoover, Walter RUTH WILDER

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April 1, 2001 - October 1, 2001 Contributions in memory of:

Vivian Best (CA)

Irene & Bob Annand (CA)

Janice Broich (MN)

Iris Society of Minnesota

Opal Brown (OR)

Ted M. Lee (SC)

Justin Brum (OH)

North East Ohio Iris Society

Russ Bruno (GA)

Northern Illinois Iris Society

Pauline Cooley (OR)

Ted M. Lee (SC)

Gladys Ensminger (NE)

Paul & Marie Cain (NE)

Ben Hager (CA)

Ted M. Lee (SC)

Daphne Hansor (MI)

Tri County Iris Society (MI)

Larry Harder (NE)

Chuck & Signey Claussen (SD)

Tova A. Johnson (SD)

Lincoln Iris Society (NE)

Mr. & Mrs. Donald R. Saxton (AL)

Rosa B. Van Valkenburgh (AL)

Frances Jones (WA)

Connie & Charles Sherer (WA)

Walla Walla Iris Society (WA)

Wesley K. Jones (IN)

Louisville Area Iris Society (IN)

Lewis Lawyer (CA)

Virginia A. Messick (CA)

Mt. Diablo Iris Society (CA)

James & Barbara Whitely (CA)

Everett Long (CO)

David G. Miller (CO)

Connell Marsh (NE)

Paul & Marie Cain (NE)

Sarah Morgan (AR)

Hot Springs Iris Society (AR)

Ellene Rockwell (TX)

Walter A. Moores (MS)

Sylvia Smith (IL)

Northern Illinois Iris Society

Evelyn J. White (ME)

The Maine Iris Society

A donation to the general fund was made by Region 17, of the American Iris Society, honoring **Peggy Lamb** for her contributions to the region.

How can you make a contribution or memorial gift to the American Iris Society Foundation?

Checks should be made payable to the American Iris Society Foundation. When sending a memorial gift, please include the name and address of the next-of-kin, so an acknowledgement card may be sent. Your tax-deductible donations should be sent to:

The American Iris Society Foundation

Roger P. Mazur Sec./Treas.

815 South 67th Ave.

Omaha, NE 68106-1115

Exhibition Committee Report

2001

By *E. Roy Spperson, Exhibitions Chair*



FOR THE YEAR 2001, 182 SHOW SCHEDULES WERE evaluated/approved. Of these, 177 were spring shows and 5 were fall shows. 6 spring shows were cancelled. There was at least one show scheduled in each Region, except Region 16 (Canada). Region 22 (Arkansas and Oklahoma) mounted the most shows - nineteen!

Seventeen shows earned Youth Silver and Bronze Medals, 106 shows had Adult Artistic Divisions and awarded the Best Design of Show Certificate/Rosette, 28 shows awarded Youth Best Design of Show Certificates/Rosettes.

Tall bearded irises were chosen Best Specimen at 109 shows, LA (9), MTB (8), IB (7), JI (6), SPEC (6), and BB (5). All other iris types had fewer than 5 as Best Specimen of Show.

The Nelson Award to honor the iris which has most often been selected Best Specimen of the Show in an AIS accredited show during 2001: CONJURATION (6 shows), DUSKY CHALLENGER (5 shows), and STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN and SILVERADO (3 shows). (Five spring shows still have not been reported.) No other iris cultivar was selected Best Specimen more than two times.

In Memoriam

Mrs. Peter Baukus (Wisconsin)

John Evers (Colorado)

Dorothy M. Harrison (Texas)

Mrs. Karol Hujsak (Oklahoma)

Jim Loveland (Missouri)

Jeanne C. Mook (California)

Mrs. Theodore (Amelia) Mueller

Mrs. Cyrus Stanley (Oklahoma)

Nadine Yunker (Wisconsin)

AIS Shows

Winners of 2001

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Region 1				
Auburn, ME	The Moors	The Whites	VANITY (TB)	Jolene Best
Shelburne Falls, MA	Deborah Wheeler	Stephen Smith	SARAH TIFFNEY (SIB)	Andrew Wheeler
Shelburne Falls, MA	Andrew Wheeler	Stephen Smith	STRUT AND FLOURISH (JI)	Andrew Wheeler
South Paris, ME	Robert Sawyer	The Hazeltons	GRAPESICLE (SDB)	Robert Sawyer
Region 2				
Albany, NY	Robert Keup	Bruce Baird	BRAZILIAN HOLIDAY (TB)	Robert Keup
Buffalo, NY	Greg Schifferli	Dorothy Steifel	ANGELS IN FLIGHT (TB)	Greg Schifferli
Buffalo, NY	Sara Marley	Joanne Bassett	ROYAL ONE (JI)	Sara Marley
Glens Falls, NY	Bob Keup	Nancy Haley	DEMI DEUIL (TB)	Bob Keup
Poughkeepsie, NY	Bob Keup	Ella & Jerry Murphy	SNOW FIDDLER (MTB)	Bob Keup
Region 3				
Mt. Lebanon, PA	Larry Grundler	Mike Corle	SHAKER'S PRAYER (SIB)	Mike Corle
Townsend, DE	Theresa Jewel	Joyce Corrin	FOREIGN STATESMAN (TB)	Theresa Jewel
Townsend, DE	R. Dennis Hager	Theresa Jewell	ROYAL LOVE (LA)	Pauline & Fran Roughley
Region 4				
Baltimore, MD	Carol Warner	R. Bruce Hornstein	RASPBERRY GLOW (JI)	Carol Warner
Charlotte, NC	Don Spoon	Dave Hull	CONJURATION (TB)	Dave Hull
Hendersonville, NC	Randell & Pat Bowen	Walter Hoover	<i>I. versicolor</i> (SPEC)	Randell & Pat Bowen
Hendersonville, NC	Walter Hoover	Norma Murphy	FAIRY CARILLON (JI)	Walter Hoover
Hunt Valley, MD	Erin, Wm. & Martha Griner	Joe Griner	BLUE RHYTHM (TB)	Sterling Innerst
Salisbury, MD	Joan Wood	Jack Holland	HANKY PANKY (TB)	Joan Wood
Spotsylvania, VA	Jim & Gina Schroetter	Rosalie Loving	BROWNBERRY (BB)	Rosalie Loving
Virginia Beach, VA	Marian "Bea" Rogers	Frances Thrash	BERTWISTLE (TB)	Frances Thrash
Region 5				
Columbia, SC	Mrs. E. L. Paquet	Thom Burch	<i>I. virginica</i> (SPEC)	Mrs. E. L. Paquet
Milledgeville, GA	Earnest Yearwood	Joe Scott Watson	CELEBRATION SONG (TB)	Earnest Yearwood
Moncks Corner, SC	Maggie Johnson	Betty Hoats	COMPETITIVE EDGE (TB)	Maggie Johnson
Spartanburg, SC	Randell & Pat Bowen	Marshall Goforth	<i>I. versicolor</i> (SPEC)	Randell & Pat Bowen
Tucker, GA	Mark & Patti Franklin	James B. McRae	SKATING PARTY (TB)	Kaye Fason
Region 6				
Akron, OH	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Douglas & Joy Fuhrmeyer	JESSE'S SONG (TB)	Sue James
Akron, OH	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Sue James	WISHFUL THINKING (TB)	Sue James
Beverly Hills, MI	Donna Calhoun	Mikel Rohr	PANDA (MTB)	Donna Calhoun
Columbus, OH	Margaret Sauers	Jody Nolin	BYE BYE BLUES (TB)	Jody Nolin
Fort Wayne, IN	Dale Poling	Lana Higgins	YAQUINA BLUE (TB)	Dale Poling
Grand Rapids, MI	Mike Moorman	Marilyn Wirth-Gendrikovs	<i>I. setosa</i> (SPEC)	Marilyn Wirth-Gendrikovs
Grand Rapids, MI	Jacki Kropf	Mike Moorman	TITAN'S GLORY (TB)	Jacki Kropf
Hale, MI	Adam Cordes	Kris Sorgenfrei	EDITH WOLFORD (TB)	Kris Sorgenfrei
Indianapolis, IN	Miller's Manor Garden	Charles Bunnell	KING TUSH (TB)	Miller's Manor
Kalamazoo, MI	Diana Langshaw	Nancy Sander	CONJURATION (TB)	Nancy Sander
Lansing, MI	Ray & Ruth Esper	Jack Sharpe	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Ray & Ruth Esper
Mansfield, OH	Rosemary Tanner	Martha Beal	SILVERADO (TB)	Rosemary Tanner
Middletown, OH	Sandra Rawlings	James H. Wilson	CONJURATION (TB)	Greg Schaffer
Muncie, IN	Jack Norrick	Wm. & Norma Garner	ROSETTE WINE (TB)	Chadd Rector

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Region 7				
Dresden, TN	Earnest & Deborah Royal	Carol Ann Carney	EVERYTHING PLUS (TB)	Carol Ann Carney
Florence, KY	Jess & Elsie Laws	Betty Cutlip	TRIPLE WHAMMY (TB)	Jess and Elsie Laws
Greeneville, TN	John Couturier	James Brooks	JEWELLED CROWN (SIB)	James Brooks
Jackson, TN	Marilyn Vernon	Joe & Imogene Zacharak	LADY FRIEND (TB)	Earnest & Debbie Royal
Knoxville, TN	John Couturier	Tom Parkhill	PEGASUS PARADE (TB)	John Couturier
Lebanon, TN	Betty Wilkins	Inez Turns	BORN TO EXCEED (TB)	Inez Turns
Lexington, KY	Hugh Thurman	VanHook's Iris Garden	SPRING KISS (TB)	Hugh Thurman
Louisville, KY	Sheila F. Gardner	Paul Owen	CONJURATION (TB)	Hilda Dunaway
Memphis, TN	James Russell	Elke Longsworth	HUE HEAVEN (TB)	Elke Longsworth
Memphis, TN	James Russell	Brenda Bielus	LARK ASCENDING (TB)	Jean & Steve Stone
Murfreesboro, TN	Dan & Margaret Scott	Russell & Jim Watson	LONG'S PEAK (TB)	Dan & Margaret Scott
Region 8				
Blaine, MN	Jack Worel	Marsha VandeBrake	RIVER OF DREAMS (IB)	William Dougherty
Blaine, MN	Walter Doehne	Lloyd & Patty Weber	TWILIGHT PASSAGE (BB)	Lloyd & Patty Weber
Hales Corner, WI	Dorothy Vande	Linda Doffek	OBLIGATO (IB)	Linda Doffek
Hales Corner, WI	Linda Doffek	Francis Rogers	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Linda Doffek
Madison, WI	Karen Eirich	Leora Mohrmann	MONTEVIDEO (TB)	Leora Mohrmann
Minneota, MN	Mildred Odenbrett	Rita Dove	CONJURATION (TB)	Rae Keam Gee
Region 9				
Alton, IL	Patrick Hayden	Lu & Orville Dickhaut	ORINOCO FLOW (BB)	Ernie Henson
Glencoe, IL	Alice Simon	Marge McCannon	CONJURATION (TB)	Alice Simon
Lombard, IL	Francis Rogers	Charles Simon	SILVERADO (TB)	Charles Simon
Mattoon, IL	Jerry & Melody Wilhoit	Cynthia Kermode	URALBA GOLD (LA)	Jerry & Melody Wilhoit
Oak Brook, IL	Charles Simon	Nancy & Mark Timko	STARWOMAN (IB)	Charles Simon
Region 10				
Lafayette, LA	James L. Leonard	Joe Musacchia	TERI (LA)	James R. Leonard
Region 11				
Boise, ID	Gordon Chester	Louisa Cone	TOBACCO LAND (TB)	Louisa Cone
Missoula, MT	Gary Clark	Bob & Billie Gray	REMINISCENCE (MTB)	Erling Gustafson
Ontario, OR	Coralee Stevenson	Tony & Irene DeRose	GOOD AND TRUE (IB)	Tony & Irene DeRose
Ontario, OR	Walter Amdt & Eileen Allison	Coralee Stevenson	DIETY (TB)	Coralee Stevenson
Region 12				
Salt Lake City, UT	Leon Robertson	Deray Taylor & Kay Thomassen	BOLD LOOK (TB)	Lavar & Marilyn Krantz
Region 13				
Bothell, WA	Richard Greenberg	David Pettinski	CRYSTAL RUFFLES (MTB)	Jean Witt
Portland, OR	Vicki Craig	Keith McNames	KIWI SLICES (SDB)	Keith McNames
Portland, OR	Chad Harris	Lee Walker	PINK DIMITY (JI)	Lynn Finkel
Puyallup, WA	Charleen Duggan	Marjorie Kilborn	BROADLEIGH SYLPH (CA)	Charleen Duggan
Spokane, WA	Norma R. Lunden	Verniece Kubes	SONG OF NORWAY (TB)	Erin Stover
Walla Walla, WA	Margaret McCrae	Hume McMartin	RHONDA FLEMING (TB)	Margaret McCrae
Region 14				
Auburn, CA	Yvette Meador	Bertha Brownlee	CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE (TB)	Art Bern
Capitola, CA	Joe Ghio	Lois Belardi	BONUS LITE (TB)	Sheryl McEwan
Chico, CA	Norma Barnard	Chuck & Kama Barnes	PRIVATE TREASURE (TB)	Chuck & Kama Barnes
Clovis, CA	George Sutton	Bill Owen	CRIMSON TIGER (TB)	Sharon Misenhimer
Henderson, NV	Helen Rusk	Oscar Schick	MOONGLADE (IB)	Oscar Schick
Las Vegas, NV	Berkely Hunt	Evelyn Condo	CRAFTY LADY (BB)	Dorlene Waite
Los Altos, CA	John I. Jones	Garry Knipe	BRAZEN BEAUTY (TB)	Lisa Ayala
Modesto, CA	Seedling Show			

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Oakland, CA	Glenn Corlew	Bob & Janet Canning	REDONDO (IB)	Glenn Corlew
Redding, CA	Phyllis O'Hanlon	Linda Harding	ROVING EYE (CA)	Sandy Olson
Sacramento, CA	Kathy Braaten	Jerry Whisler	GUADALAJARA (TB)	Jerry Whisler
San Jose, CA	Lisa Ayala	Genie Donnell	BLUE STACCATO (TB)	John Pesek
Santa Rosa, CA	Anna & David Cadd	Carol & Dick Elia	ELEGANT GIRL (TB)	Anna & David Cadd
Ukiah, CA	No Award	No Award	RASPBERRY DAZZLER (CA)	Betty Coyle
Ukiah, CA	JoAnne McGrew	Kitty Loberg	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	JoAnne McGrew
Walnut Creek, CA	R&B Circle Gardens	Glenn Corlew	CALM STREAM (TB)	R&B Circle Gardens

Region 15

Arcadia, CA	Lynn McIlwain	Leigh Nicolai-Moon	BAYOU MYSTIQUE (LA)	Leigh Nicolai-Moon
Canoga Park, CA	Leigh Nicolai-Moon	Randy Squires	MARY FRANCES (TB)	Leigh Nicolai-Moon
Palmdale, CA	Helen Radebaugh	No Award	EAGLE'S FLIGHT (TB)	Winona Stevenson
Riverside, CA	Steve McCullough	Kim Ung	FEMININE FIRE (TB)	Steve McCullough
Tempe, AZ	Joyce Poling	Jeffrey Kurtzman	SMILING GOLD (TB)	Francelle Edwards
Tucson, AZ	Perri Larson	Joanne Lee Miller	IT'S MAGIC (TB)	Kevin Kartchner

Region 17

Amarillo, TX	Kenneth Mazurek	Dawn Boyer	ANNA BELLE BABSON (TB)	Kenneth Mazurek
Austin, TX	Rita & Cliff Snyder	Judi & Keith Sharp	JESSE'S SONG (TB)	Rita & Cliff Snyder
Belton, TX	Jim Landers	Bob Alexander	LEMON CHESS (TB)	Jim Landers
Cleburne, TX	Lois Wall	Bob & Judy Montgomery	BOOGIE WOOGIE (TB)	Janet Wallace
Dallas, TX	Dell Perry	Dr. Lew Begley	MISS PIGGY (TB)	Ken & Penny Maxson
Dallas, TX	Linda Thornbrugh	Dr. Lew Begley	BOOGIE WOOGIE (TB)	Dr. Lew Begley
Denison, TX	C & J Montgomery	Alisa Peters	LOS COYOTES (TB)	Tom Nuchols
Ft. Worth, TX	Joe & Donna Spears	Keith Smith	STERLING STITCH (TB)	James & Marilyn Issacs
Iowa Park, TX	Robert Medina	Jayne Wiist	BLACK AS NIGHT (TB)	Robert Medina
Lubbock, TX	Mary Ann Abbey	Vernon & Dana Brown	VARGA GIRL (TB)	Mary Ann Abbey
Midland, TX	Barbara Larsen	Wilson & Joy Howell	CONTRIBUTION (TB)	Connie Ford
New Braunfels, TX	Kenneth Treisch	Kay Conerly	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Joyce Evans
Odessa, TX	Debbie Davila	Wilson & Joy Howell	LULLABY OF SPRING (TB)	Debbie Davila
Pittsburg, TX	Earnest W. Dyke	Helen Kridler	RADIANT APOGEE (TB)	Earnest W. Dyke
Sherman, TX	Charles & Jan Montgomery	Alisa Peters	SILVERADO (TB)	Charles & Jan Montgomery
Waco, TX	Hazel Haik	Roy & Connie Rutledge	ACOMA (TB)	Hazel Haik

Region 18

Augusta, KS	Kendal Rohr	Lowell Markley	LONG'S PEAK (TB)	Kendal Rohr
Barnhart, MO	Thomas Gormley	Stanley Grein	THIS AND THAT (IB)	Stanley Grein
Cape Girardeau, MO	Dan & Nancy Elliott	O. Dave Niswonger	GOOD SHOW (TB)	Dan & Nancy Elliott
Centertown, MO	Eric Tankesley-Clarke	Dennis and Merritt	ROMEO (MTB)	Eric Tankesley-Clarke
Crestwood, MO	Jim Morris	Van Landuyt		
Dodge City, KS	Jerry Shelly	Thomas Gormley	ZULA (MTB)	Thomas Gormley
Garden City, KS	Nancy Price	Alice Sinclair	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (TB)	Jerry Shelly
Garden City, KS	Nancy Price	Robin Calderon	ATTENTION GETTER (SDB)	Robin Calderon
Hutchinson, KS	Kendal Rohr	Wanda Smith	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Nancy Price
Joplin, MO	Cancelled	LaDeana Hindle	AMELIA'S DOVE (TB)	LaDeana Hindle
Maryland Heights, MO	Seedling Show			
Parsons, KS	John Spare	Bill Chapman, Sr.	MARCY MICHELLE (TB)	John Spare
Springfield, MO	Evelyn Beersman	Glen Groff	SOLOMON'S SEAL (TB)	Evelyn Beersman
St. Joseph, MO	Beverly Hoyt	Jim Hedgecock	<i>I. pseudacorus</i> (SPEC)	Beverly Hoyt
St. Louis, MO	Phyllis Burton	R. Probst & S. Tio	CENTER OF ATTENTION (JI)	Phyllis Burton
St. Louis, MO	Jim Morris	Riley Probst	BLUE ARTS (AB)	Stephanie Rust
Washington, MO	Jim Morris	Barb Fouts	DURAL WHITE BUTTERFLY (LA)	Barb Fouts
Wichita, KS	Helen Reynolds	Kendal Rohr	APRIL FRESH (AB)	Kendal Rohr
Wichita, KS	Helen Reynolds	Mike Hargrove	LOIS RAINIER (TB)	Christine Suchy
Wichita, KS	Helen Reynolds	Kendal Rohr	PICACHO PEAK (SPU)	Helen Reynolds

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Region 19				
Medford, NJ	Cathy Button	Joe Griner	SUN AND SURF (LA)	Joe Griner
Moorestown, NJ	Nancy Szmuriga	Erin, Wm. & Martha Griner	<i>I. cristata</i> (SPEC)	Joe & Margo Griner
Morristown, NJ	Erin, Wm. & Martha Griner	Joe & Margo Griner	HOT GOSSIP (TB)	Gary Slagle
Region 20				
Colorado Springs, CO	Lynda Love	Don & Patricia Morgan	DESERT SEAGOLD (SPU)	Rod Stetson
Denver, CO	Lynda Love	Lowell Baumunk	DOTTED DOLL (MTB)	Lowell Baumunk
Denver, CO	Tracey Chandler	Orvid & Lois Olson	SWIRLING LAVENDER (SIB)	Lynda Love
Rocky Ford, CO	Karen Tomky	Rose McClain	HILO SURF (TB)	Norene Aydelotte
Region 21				
Brookings, SD	Ruthmary Jackson	C.T. & Signey Clausen	SUPERSKIRT (TB)	Ruthmary Jackson
Lincoln, NE	Eugene Kalkwarf	Opal Wulf	BRIGHTEN THE CORNER (BB)	Sally Schrader
Norfolk, NE	Neal Pohlman	Leland Nelson	TRADING PLACES (TB)	Neal Pohlman
Omaha, NE	Chris Janke	Linda Wilkie	AFTERNOON DELIGHT (TB)	Chris Janke
Scottsbluff, NE	June Hara	LeRoy Meininger	HONKY TONK BLUES (TB)	Ron Charles
Region 22				
Edmond, OK	Hugh Stout	Bonnie Hadaway	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (TB)	Karen Sobetzer
Enid, OK	Ann & Mickey Barrows	F. W. Vicker	TEXAS GLORY (TB)	Ann & Mickey Barrows
Hot Springs, AR	James Bledsoe	Sheila Brown	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (TB)	James Bledsoe
Lawton, OK	Robert & Paula Medina	MaryAnn Holman	WILD BERRY (TB)	MaryAnn Holman
Lawton, OK	Marjorie Puckett	Scottie Fenney	SUDDEN IMPACT (TB)	Elsie Harrow
Lawton, OK	Scottie Fenney	Brenda Nease	FEATURE ATTRACTION (TB)	Rose Cox
Little Rock, AR	Robert Treadway	Tom Dillard	CLARA GOULA (LA)	Robert Treadway
Norman, OK	Louise Carson	Norbert Kowalchuk	PASSION FLOWER (TB)	Louise Carson
Oklahoma City, OK	Perry Dyer	Rex Matthews	CUORE (SDB)	Perry Dyer
Oklahoma City, OK	Rex Matthews	Louise Carson	WORLD PREMIERE (TB)	Louise Carson
Oklahoma City, OK	Rex Matthews	F. W. McVicker	PINBALL WIZARD (TB)	Rex Matthews
Oklahoma City, OK	Rex Matthews	Louise Carson	OBVIOUS HEIR (LA)	Rex Matthews
Ponca City, OK	Eric Whitebay	Lillian Williams	CELEBRATION SONG (TB)	Christopher Davidson
Searcy, AR	M. D. Faith	LaVera Johnson	RHONDA FLEMING (TB)	M.D. Faith
Tulsa, OK	Dean & Georgia Brand	Jo Ann Minter	DESIGNING WOMAN (TB)	Dean & Georgia Brand
Tulsa, OK	Dean & Georgia Brand	Jo Ann Minter	ICARUS (LA)	Jo Ann Minter
Region 23				
Albuquerque, NM	Valerie White	Patricia Randall	TEUCROS (AB)	Irene Shockey
Albuquerque, NM	Hsia-Fen Tien	Scott & Reita Jordan	PORTRAIT OF LARRIE (TB)	Pam Lackey
Albuquerque, NM	Pei-Lin & Hsia-Fen Tien	Mrs. Walter White	ART CENTER (TB)	Pei-Lin & Hsia-Fen Tien
Las Cruces, NM	Rosemary Anderson	No Award	SUNRISE IN MISSOURI (SPU)	Maxine Perkins
Roswell, NM	Pegi Naranjo	Gary Biggs	SHAKE AND BAKE (TB)	Dr. Maurice Geldert
Santa Fe, NM	Pat & Bill Feather	John & Rosemary Cain	EVERYTHING PLUS (TB)	John & Rosemary Cain
Region 24				
Grenada, MS	Walter Moores	Billie Lynn Jones	VERMILION QUEEN (LA)	Walter Moores
Huntsville, AL	Betty J. Burch	Margaret Connally	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (TB)	Madalon Reichold

Fall Shows

Winners of 2001

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Region 4 Fredericksburg, VA	Jerry Coates	Phyllis Soine	LADY EMMA (MTB)	Jerry Coates
Region 5 Anderson, SC	Randell Bowen	Everette Lineberger	JENNIFER REBECCA (TB)	Anna Mae Potter
Region 14 Oakland, CA	No medals awarded		BILLIONAIRE (TB)	Reggie Olney
Van Nuys, CA	John Schoustra	Gerry Snyder	FREQUENT FLYER (TB)	Mary Anne Abrahms

AIS Artistic Shows

Winners of 2001

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Best Design</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes</i>	<i>Best Design Youth</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes Youth</i>
Region 1 Auburn, ME Shelburne Falls, MA South Paris, ME	Nancy McNeill Kathey Marble Sharon Harvie	Nancy McNeill Kathey Marble Peter Young	Jolene Best Jolene Best	
Region 2 Buffalo, NY Buffalo, NY Syracuse, NY	Judy Tucholski Audrey Eisenhardt Jean Hayes			
Region 3 Mt. Lebanon, PA	Jane Cadman			
Region 4 Charlotte, NC Spotsylvania, VA Virginia Beach, VA	Joan Ladd Martha Carter Julia Dunaja	Martha Carter		
Region 5 Columbia, SC Milledgeville, GA Spartanburg, SC	Mrs. E. L. Paquet Ira Parnell Susan Hite	Ira Parnell Susan Hite	Brittany White	Brittany White
Region 6 Akron, OH Akron, OH Columbus, OH Fort Wayne, IN Grand Rapids, MI Grand Rapids, MI Hale, MI	Dorothy Willott Mary Ann Rich Dottie Bates Sara Gartin Lois Wier Jacki Kropf Dolores Meinzingar	TIE: Dorothy Willott and Anthony Willott Joy Fuhrmeyer Suzan Lake Sara Gartin Leta Kwiatkowski Jacki Kropf Virginia Copas		

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Best Design</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes</i>	<i>Best Design Youth</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes Youth</i>
Indianapolis, IN Lansing, MI Mansfield, OH Mio, MI Muncie, IN	Joe Hamm Virginia Maynard Johanna Bodiford Delores Meinzingar Betty Thomas	Joe Hamm Johanna Bodiford Dolores Meinzingar		
Region 7 Knoxville, TN Lebanon, TN Louisville, KY Memphis, TN Memphis, TN Murfreesboro, TN	James Ennenga John Begarly Paul Owen Carolyn Hicks Robbieanna Smith	Katie Scheler Paul Owen Joy McKee		
Region 8 Blaine, MN Blaine, MN Madison, WI Minneota, MN	Marsha VandeBrake Marsha VandeBrake Keith Eirich Rita Dovre	Marsha VandeBrake Joan Cooper Keith Eirich		
Region 9 Glencoe, IL Lombard, IL Oak Brook, IL	Rita Morits Anne Zelisko Betsy Grimm	Bill Hessel Barbara Miller Alice Kudrna	Heather Hamblin	
Region 11 Boise, ID Missoula, MT Ontario, OR Ontario, OR	Louisa Cone James Sadler Edna Rosenbaum Edna Rosenbaum	Edna Rosenbaum Edna Rosenbaum Edna Rosenbaum		
Region 12 Salt Lake City, UT	Thomas Miller			
Region 13 Portland, OR Portland, OR Puyallup, WA Spokane, WA Walla Walla, WA	Kath Collier Kath Collier Lori Kase Norma Lunden Linda Bauck	Laurie Ystad Kath Collier Norma Lunden Anne Aveson		
Region 14 Auburn, CA Chico, CA Clovis, CA Las Vegas, NV Oakland, CA Redding, CA San Jose, CA Ukiah, CA	Roberta Whisler Delores Bates Laverne Cottet Dorlene Waite Cloudia Owen Lorna Bonham Dorothy Goble Gretchen Logan	Delores Bates Laverne Cottet Jean Paul Cloudia Owen Jean Near	Jessica Tyson	
Region 15 Arcadia, CA Canoga Park, CA Palmdale, CA Riverside, CA Tempe, AZ Tucson, AZ	Mike Monninger Eileen Fiumara Helen Radebaugh Grace Martin Patrick Orr Charlotte Clark	Mike Monninger Dorothy Appleby Helen Radebaugh Mike Monninger Charlotte Clark	Emily Bys Claireliese Kennedy	Emily Bys Claireliese Kennedy

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Best Design</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes</i>	<i>Best Design Youth</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes Youth</i>
Region 17				
Amarillo, TX	Dawn Boyer	Dawn Boyer		
Austin, TX	Sonia Hensley	Mel Landers		
Cleburne, TX	Bob Alexander	Bob Alexander		
Denison, TX	Gordon D. Green	Gordon D. Green		
Fort Worth, TX	Gloria Lewis	Valerie Meredith	Jessica Bevel	
Iowa Park, TX	Annetta Reusch	Annetta Reusch	Chentel Burk	
Lubbock, TX	Rosemary English	Rosemary English		
Midland, TX	Lonie Mitchell	Lonie Mitchell		
New Braunfels, TX	Mrs. Rodney DeCoux			
Sherman, TX	Ellen Sullivan	Ellen Sullivan		
Waco, TX	Mary Fussell	Mary Fussell		
Region 18				
Augusta, KS	Lowell Markley	Lowell Markley	Grace Christensen	Grace Christensen
Crestwood, MO	Laura Sturm	Vince Italian	Lauren Harvath	
Dodge City, KS	Marti Woods	Marti Woods and Carol Loker		
Garden City, KS	Nancy Price	Nancy Price	Brianna Calderon	
Hutchinson, KS	Sandra Grimm	Pat Bass		
Parsons, KS	Lucy Pearce	Lucy Pearce		
Springfield, MO	Eural Simpson	Eural Simpson		
St. Joseph, MO	Lucille Boswell	Lucille Boswell	Will Findley	Stephanie Rust
St. Louis, MO	Nadine Wallenstein	Nadine Wallenstein	Lyle Newman	
Washington, MO	Jean Morris	Jean Morris	Stephanie Rust	Nicole Grzeskowiak
Wichita, KS	Jay Westervelt	Jay Westervelt	Brandon Westervelt	
Wichita, KS	Jay Westervelt	Jay Westervelt	Brandon Westervelt	
Wichita, KS	Jay Westervelt	Jay Westervelt	Jennifer Schmidt	
Region 19				
Medford, NJ	Cathy Button			
Region 20				
Colorado Springs, CO	Joan James			
Rocky Ford, CO	TIE: Paula Bennedsen Karen Tomky	Karen Tomky		
Region 21				
Brookings, SD	Rita Engels	Ruthmary Jackson		
Lincoln, NE	Opal Wulf			
Norfolk, NE	Marian Burleigh	Marian Burleigh		
Omaha, NE	Linda Wilkie	Barb Luebbert	Daniel Wilkie	
Scottsbluff, NE	Jan Blumanthal	Russell Saito		
Region 22				
Edmond, OK	Sadie Hild	Sadie Hild	Molly Brooks	Molly Brooks
Enid, OK	Elaine Lee	Elaine Lee		
Hot Springs, AR	Beverly Powers	Beverly Powers		
Lawton, OK	MaryAnn Holman	MaryAnn Holman	Jaclyn Simmons	
Lawton, OK	Elsie Harrow	Maria & Howard Edwards	Whitney James	Whitney James
Lawton, OK	Brenda Nease	Brenda Nease	Whitney James	
Little Rock, AR	Susan Elliott	Susan Elliott		
Norman, OK	Perry Parrish	Nancy Kowalchyk	Kelsy Henderson	
Oklahoma City, OK	April Pratt			
Oklahoma City, OK	Nancy Kowalchyk	Virginia Gregory	Nathan McKenzie	
Oklahoma City, OK	April Pratt	April Pratt		
Tulsa, OK	Melinda McLane	Melinda McLane	Zachary Barker	

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Best Design</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes</i>	<i>Best Design Youth</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes Youth</i>
Region 23				
Albuquerque, NM	Patricia Randall	Patricia Randall		
Roswell, NM	Pegi Naranjo	Pegi Naranjo		
Santa Fe, NM	Shelby Green	Shelby Green	Christina Lawrence	
Region 24				
Blountsville, AL	Delois Dunn	Dorothy Holmes		

AIS Youth Shows

Winners of 2001

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen-Youth</i>	<i>Exhibitor-Youth</i>
Region 3				
Pittsburgh, PA			REAL JAZZY (MTB)	Markki Graham
Townsend, DE	Clair Jewell	Briana Hargett	POINTE OF VIEW (TB)	Brianna Hargett
Region 4				
Spotsylvania, VA			DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Krissy Laing
Region 5				
Milledgeville, GA	Brittany White	Bill Weathers	SNOW BLANKET (TB)	Brittany White
Region 6				
Kalamazoo, MI	Jason Lindberg		DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Jason Lindberg
Region 7				
Dresden, TN	Blake W. Stoker	Fred Hatler	TENNESSEE GENTLEMAN (TB)	Benjamin Barnett
Lexington, KY			THORNBIRD (TB)	Vicky Adkins
Louisville, KY			DREAM LOVER (TB)	Jonathan Hawel
Murfreesboro, TN	Craig Watson	Robert McKee	WISFUL THINKING (TB)	Craig Watson
Nashville, TN			GLACIER KISS (TB)	Craig Watson
Region 11				
Boise, ID			CAPTAIN'S JOY (TB)	Brian Touchstone
Ontario, OR			HOT PINK (TB)	Jessica McGrew
Region 14				
Chico, CA			MARNIE (SDB)	Samantha Osborne
Clovis, CA	Andrew Sutton	Shelby Sutton	BORDER MUSIC (BB)	Shelby Sutton
Sacramento, CA			CRUISE CONTROL (TB)	Justin Brice
Ukiah, CA	Marc Loberg	Amy McCann		
Region 15				
Riverside, CA			THORNBIRD (TB)	Claireliese Kennedy
Tempe, AZ			SKATING PARTY (TB)	Rachel Edwards
Tucson, AZ			TENNESSEE GENTLEMAN (TB)	Kara Kartchner
Region 17				
Iowa Park, TX			WISTFUL WISTERIA (MTB)	Stephanie Strauss
Odessa, TX	Ryan Carnes	Allison Ledesma	JUNGLE PRINCESS (TB)	Allison Ledesma

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen-Youth</i>	<i>Exhibitor-Youth</i>
Region 18				
Cape Girardeau, MO	Gabriel Lockhart	Jimmie Gillette	GILDED CREAM (TB)	Gabriel Lockhart
Crestwood, MO	Nick Yowell	Matt Knipshild	SPRING FLING (TB)	Nick Yowell
St. Louis, MO			TOWERING FINALE (TB)	Stephanie Rust
St. Louis, MO	Stephanie Rust	Christopher Rust	BLUE ARTS (AB)	Stephanie Rust
Washington, MO	Stephanie Rust	Christopher Rust	PRALINE FESTIVAL (LA)	Stephanie Rust
Region 19				
Morristown, NY			LADY FRIEND (TB)	Sue Marchetti
Region 22				
Hot Springs, AR			SPACE VARIETY (TB)	Lucas Rudd
Lawton, OK			BROADWAY (TB)	Jaclyn Simmons
Lawton, OK	Jessica Miller	Whitney James	CHUCK WALTERMIRE (TB)	Jessica Miller
Lawton, OK	Jessica Miller	Whitney James	BRAVE NEW WORLD (TB)	Jessica Miller
Norman, OK			RARE TREAT (TB)	C. J. Wilcox
Ponca City, OK	Kelsey Whitebay	Christopher Davidson	CELEBRATION SONG (TB)	Christopher Davidson
Tulsa, OK			HELEN COLLINGWOOD (TB)	Alex Egbert
Region 23				
Albuquerque, NM	Whitney McGrath		NEW WAVE (TB)	Whitney McGrath
Albuquerque, NM			CONJURATION (TB)	Sarah Furnish
Region 24				
Grenada, MS	Cheri McDaniel	Kelsey Kuykendall	LEMON CHESS (TB)	Cheri McDaniel
Huntsville, AL			HE MAN BLUES (TB)	Thomas T. Tipton

Photo: Aitken



WINNING TICKET (Lynda Miller '99) as seen at National Convention

Displays

Educational and Commercial

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Commercial</i>
Region 1 Shelburne Falls, MA	Andrew Wheeler	
Region 2 Buffalo, NY Poughkeepsie, NY Syracuse, NY	Joanne Bassett Robert Keup Maria Gerbacht	
Region 4 Hendersonville, NC	Flossie Nelson	
Region 5 Milledgeville, GA Spartanburg, SC	Cindy White	Quail Hill Gardens (Linebergers)
Region 7 Louisville, KY	Lula Reynolds	
Region 8 Blaine, MN Blaine, MN	William Dougherty William Dougherty	Brook Park Iris Gardens
Region 11 Boise, ID Missoula, MT Ontario, OR	Brian Touchstone Ken Baier Brian Touchstone	
Region 13 Portland, OR		Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden
Region 14 Auburn, CA Chico, CA Las Vegas, NV Oakland, CA	Kathy Braaten Andrew Acosta Dean Lamar Allen Grade School (Grade 3) Kenneth Walker	
Region 15 Riverside, CA Tempe, AZ Tucson, AZ Bert Detwiler	Naomi Hildreth Joyce Poling Ohara School of Ikebana	Kary Iris Garden
Region 17 Austin, TX Cleburne, TX	Bob Alexander Bob Alexander	
Region 18 Crestwood, MO Garden City, KS Hutchinson, KS St. Louis, MO	Matt Knipshild Gail DaSilva Judy Eckhoff Lyle Newman	

*Place of Show**Educational**Commercial*

Washington, MO

Allison Grzeskowiak

Region 20

Colorado Springs, CO

Lola Quinn

Colorado Springs, CO

Kay and Joe Gagnon

Region 22

Lawton, OK

Elsie Harrow

Lawton, OK

Elsie Harrow

Tulsa, OK

Rilla Hickerson

Median Top Ten

Compiled by Riley Probst & Shirley Dope, Missouri

<i>SDB's</i>	<i>IB's</i>	<i>MTB's</i>	<i>BB's</i>	<i>ABMED's</i>
1 Chanted - 36	1 Rare Edition - 40	1 Bangles - 53	1 Cranapple - 49	1 Loudmouth - 24
2 Chubby Cheeks - 33	2 Protocol - 34	2 Bumblebee Declite - 51	2 Batik - 40	2 Jewel Of Omar - 23
3 Ice And Indigo - 32	2 Starwoman - 34	3 Frosted Velvet - 50	3 Brown Lasso - 33	3 Bozrah - 21
3 Pele - 32	4 Lemon Pop - 33	4 Rosemary's Dream - 37	4 Sonja's Selah - 28	3 Omar's Gold - 21
3 Vavoom - 32	5 Maui Moonlight - 29	5 Apricot Drops - 33	5 Lenora Pearl - 26	5 Patriot's Gem - 19
6 Minidragon - 30	6 Country Dance - 27	6 Welch's Reward - 31	6 Red Rooster - 23	6 Prairie Thunder - 14
7 Captive Sun - 26	7 Ask Alma - 26	7 Steffie - 30	7 Faux Pas - 22	7 Anacrusis - 12
8 Gemstar - 24	7 Cee Jay - 26	8 Petite Monet - 29	7 Pink Bubbles - 22	8 Sizzle - 10
8 Serenity Prayer - 24	9 Blue-Eyed Blond - 25	9 Pretty Quirky - 28	9 Baboon Bottom - 20	9 Omar's Torch - 8
10 Bedford Lilac - 23	10 Honey Glazed - 24	10 Mini Wabash - 27	10 Zinc Pink - 19	9 Pinkeva - 8
10 Jazzamatazz - 23	9 Solomon's Glory - 8	10 Starbaby - 23		

The Sooner State Iris Society
is pleased to announce our TWENTY-SECOND Annual

POLLEN DAUBER'S SEMINAR *featuring* **DON & GINNY SPOON**

Of Winterberry Gardens On Hybridizing Irises
March 22-23, 2002

Don & Ginny will speak to the Society on Friday, March 22nd following a 6:30 pm pot-luck dinner. Pollen Dauber's Session will be from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Saturday, March 23rd. Seminar fee is \$20.00 per person.

For assistance, call: Greer Holland, 4521 NE 55th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73121, (405) 424-6634. Seminar held at the Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 NW 36th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

(Required by 39 USC 3685)

1. Publication Title <i>Publication of the American Union Society</i>	2. Publication Number <i>07947-417D</i>	3. Filing Date <i>Oct. 1, 2001</i>
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9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) <i>The American Union Society</i> Editor (Name and complete mailing address) <i>Bruce K. Kende</i> <i>4244 NE Royal Ct., Portland, OR 97213-1668</i> Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) <i>None</i>		

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)	
Full Name <i>The American Union Society</i>	Complete Mailing Address <i>843 County Rte 3, Hannibal, Mo. 63074-2356</i>
<i>No stockholders - dues paying members only</i>	

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None	
Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates) (Check one)
☐ The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:
☐ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

13. Publication Title <i>Publication of the American Union Society</i>	14. Issue Data for Circulation Data Below <i>July 2001</i>	
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(1) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, and Counter Sales (Not mailed)	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
(2) Paid or Requested Mail Subscriptions (Include advertiser's proof copies and exchange copies)	<i>5844</i>	<i>5945</i>
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b(1) and 15b(2))	<i>5844</i>	<i>5945</i>
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e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)	<i>50</i>	<i>50</i>
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	<i>5894</i>	<i>5995</i>
h. Copies not Distributed		
(1) Office Use, Leftovers, Spoiled	<i>558</i>	<i>805</i>
(2) Returns from News Agents	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
i. Total (Sum of 15g, 15h(1), and 15h(2))	<i>6600</i>	<i>6700</i>
Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c / 15g x 100)	<i>99.21</i>	<i>99.24</i>

16. Publication of Statement of Ownership
☐ Publication required: Will be printed in the *January 2002* issue of this publication.
☒ Publication not required.

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
Sara R. Maskey, Secretary, American Union Soc. Date *October 1, 2001*

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties).

Instructions to Publishers

- Complete and file one copy of this form with your postmaster annually on or before October 1. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records.
 - In cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in items 10 and 11 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who are stockholders who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing corporation. In item 11, if none, check the box. Use blank sheets if more space is required.
 - Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in item 15. Free circulation must be shown in items 15d, e, and f.
 - If the publication had second-class authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.
 - In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
 - Item 17 must be signed.
- Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of second-class authorization.

Membership Contest

2002

by Lynda Miller, Indiana

The 2002 Membership Contest actually began October 1, 2001. Three separate awards will be presented at the 2002 convention – one to the youth, one to the adult and one to the affiliate with the most total points. A minimum of 30 points and at least two participants in each category are necessary to qualify for the trophy plaques. Certificates of achievement will be awarded to all participants. A new 2002 Tall Bearded iris introduction will be awarded to affiliates earning 100 or more points and to individuals earning 55 or more points. Youth earn \$1.00 worth of iris for each point, up to \$50.00 worth. Names of the award winners will be published in the January, 2003 Bulletin.

Point Scale:

- 10 points for each new single annual membership
- 15 points for each new dual annual
- 20 points for each new single triennial
- 25 points for each new dual triennial
- 10 points for each new youth member added to an existing membership (same address)
- 25 points for each new youth member registered as a solitary member

The following points will be given for conversion from annual to triennial membership providing the membership has been in effect for a minimum of one year:

- 20 points for converting from single annual to single triennial
- 25 points for converting from dual annual to dual triennial
- 10 points for converting from single triennial to dual triennial
- 100 points for single life membership
- 150 points for dual life membership

Rules

1. Membership application and payment of dues are made directly to the AIS Membership Secretary. Dues may be submitted by the recruiter or by the new member.

2. Membership Chairman of the contestant's Region (if there is an active chairman) and the AIS Contest Chairman (Lynda Miller, 1277 E.

191st St., Noblesville, IN 46060) should be notified by the recruiter within 30 days. First submission can be checked back to October 1, 2001.

3. Each new membership should be reported with the following information: name, complete address and region number of the new member; the type of membership (annual, triennial, life) or conversion (single annual to single triennial, etc.). Also the name, address and region number of the recruiter. Only those memberships reported correctly will be awarded points. Please print clearly or type.

4. Renewal of memberships following a lapse of two years will count as new members.

5. New memberships received by the Membership Contest Chairman postmarked after October 2, 2003, or memberships not starting until January 2003, cannot be counted for the 2002 contest, but will be automatically credited to the recruiter for the 2002 contest.

Winners for 2001: Affiliate Participants

The Affiliate division was won by the Bluegrass Iris Society, Region 7 with 250 points.

Runner up was Columbus Iris Society, Region 6 with 140 points.

Winners for 2001: Individual Participants

Youth division was won by Nicole Grzeskowiak, Region 18 with 340 points.

Total points represent 56 youth without Bulletin (all are participating in the class room programs); three single annual memberships (teachers); two single triennial members and one single life membership.

Special Offer 1999 AIS Bulletin Back Issues

\$5.00	10 Bulletins	\$8.00	40 Bulletins
\$6.00	20 Bulletins	\$9.00	50 Bulletins
\$7.00	30 Bulletins	\$10.00	60 Bulletins

Ideal to hand out at shows, sales and other activities. Shipped in packs of 10. Price includes shipping and handling. Make check payable to American Iris Society. Order this special offer separately from regular Storefront orders, directly from: Carryl Meyer, 2532 Highwood Drive, Missoula, MT 59803; (406) 251-5800; <carrylm@bigsky.net>

2002 Silent Auction

Memphis, Tennessee

We are holding the Silent Auction again at the AIS Convention in Memphis, Tennessee! That means we need your contributions to ensure the success that we have enjoyed in the past years.

The Silent Auction has become a popular part of our conventions, and it's a fun way to raise funds for the support of AIS. Many people have iris treasures they could donate, and it is a great way for hybridizers to get their introductions seen in different parts of the country.

What we are looking for are iris artifacts, iris books and new or recent iris introductions. However, if you would like to donate any other irises that are rare or unusual, that would work just fine. Just drop us a note and let us know what you have.

This year's convention is scheduled for late April (April 24-29) so please let us know what you can donate no later than April 1, so we can prepare the bid sheets. Send a short note to my address below, give me a call, or email works too. I look forward to hearing from you.

Carryl Meyer, 2532 Highwood Drive, Missoula, MT 59803; (406) 251-5800; <carrylm@bigsky.net>

AIS Scheduled Fall Board Meetings as of November 2001

2002: 1-3 Nov; 2002, Fort Worth, TX; Wilson World Hotel, 4600 W. Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062; (972) 513-0800

Chairman: Joe Spears; 910 Pioneer Circle, Argyle, TX 76226; (940) 464-3680

2003: 7-9 Nov; Tucson, AZ

Chairman: Lucille Skerston, 2950 N. Placita Nueva, Tucson, AZ 85715-3430; (520) 751-1696; Lrskerston@aol.com

2004: 5-7 Nov; Santa Rosa, CA

Chairman: Alice V. Kemper, 134 Malet Street, Sonoma, CA 95476

2005: 4-6 Nov; Minneapolis, MN

Chairman: Marsha VandeBrake, 958-124th Ln. NW, Coons Rapids, MN 55448; (763) 755-5869

Minutes

of the AIS Board of Directors Meeting

*Greensboro, North Carolina
November 2-3 2001*

The Fall meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Iris Society was called to order by President Clarence Mahan at 7:40 P.M. on November 2, 2001. Mahan welcomed the group and noted the support and sympathy from irisarians worldwide following the events of September 11th. He commented on the sad occasion of Larry Harder's death, noting that AIS had lost one of its most staunch supporters.

Mahan thanked Director Epperson, the Eastern North Carolina Iris Society and Region 4 for hosting this meeting. Introductions of AIS officers, Directors, Committee Chairs and guests followed.

Present during the various sessions were: **Officers:** President Mahan, Immediate Past President Niswonger, 1st Vice-President and Editor Aitken, 2nd Vice-President J. Plank, Secretary Marley, Treasurer Hudson; **Administrative Officers:** Registrar Keppel, Recording Secretary A. Lowe, incoming Recording Secretary Bonino; **Directors:** Epperson, Gossett, J. Jones, M. Lowe, Mark, Meyer, J. Morris, B. Nichols, Pope, Probst, G. Snyder; **RVP Representative:** JaNiece Mull (4); **Committee Chairs:** Cross, B. Mull, M. Snyder; **RVPs:** Boyson (7), Ludi (13), M. Sutton (14); **RVP-Elect:** B. Sawyer (1), J. Thrift (5); **Legal Advisor** R. Plank; **Parliamentarian:** R. Figge; **Guests:** W. Marley (2), Brown, G. & S. Grigg (4), Honkanen (5), B. Aitken (13); H. Nichols (17); Trio (18).

Secretary Marley announced that since there were no additional nominations, Maureen Mark, Carryl Meyer, Nancy Pocklington and Gerry Snyder were duly elected and qualified as Directors with terms expiring in 2004.

Mahan's appointment of Rosalie Figge as Parliamentarian for this meeting was approved by consensus.

Minutes: The following correction was made to the minutes of the 2001 Spring meeting as published in AIS *Bulletin* #322: change spelling of Rodienko to Rodionenko in the Foundation Liaison report. J. Plank moved that the minutes be approved as corrected; Gossett seconded. Carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President: Mahan requested reaffirmation of the following authorized interim actions:

1. Drafting and signing of a 10 month contract with Membership Secretary Whitehead who will continue in her position until August 2002 at which time a new Membership Secretary will be appointed. Whitehead's annual salary will be paid for the 10 month duration of the contract. Jones moved affirmation; Probst seconded. Carried
 2. Since no one has been able to contact Awards Chairman Campbell, current status of judges voting the 2001 Ballot is not available. Judges Chairman Mullin has been instructed to submit his report without any deletions based on non-voting of this Ballot.
 3. Partial dues refund to AIS member by officers
 4. Change of effective postmark date for Awards ballot to July 2, 2001 as July 1 deadline fell on Sunday
 5. Purchase of UPS system with surge protection for Membership Office
 6. Waiver of deadline for two judges due to lost ballot
 7. Decision to let stand the awards given to 3 irises of foreign origin which were erroneously placed on the 2001 ballot
 8. Purchase of a new computer for the office of the AIS Secretary
 9. A transition audit of the books by Jill Bonino
- Probst moved approval of all interim actions; J. Morris seconded, Carried.
- Mahan reported that Walter and Sara Marley have volunteered to drive to the home of Larry Harder in Ponca, Nebraska, assist his family in assembling and packing items belonging to

AIS, and transport this material to Librarian McNames in Salem, Oregon. Marleys have requested that AIS reimburse them for expenses incurred one way. Epperson moved that the trip costs one-way be underwritten by AIS; M. Lowe seconded. Carried.

Mahan noted that McNames will determine which items are appropriate for placement in the Library and which ones might be donated to the AIS Silent Auction.

- Mahan reported that the Boehm porcelain iris traditionally in possession of the AIS President, in accordance with the directive of the Board, was shipped to the AIS Library during the summer. Although a reputable professional packer was used, the iris was broken when it arrived in Oregon. Mahan cited difficulties he and McNames are encountering in trying to collect the insurance. He stated that he will continue to pursue this matter.
- Mahan reiterated an earlier warning that tough financial times are ahead and suggested that the Board might want to seriously consider a dues increase in the near future. He also noted that many of our procedures are so complex that volunteers are unwilling to take on certain positions and he emphasized the need to simplify policies in all areas.

First Vice President: No report.

Second Vice President: J. Plank noted that, following consultation with Treasurer Hudson, she has not yet complied with the Board decision to order 100 RVP pins at a cost of \$32 each. Since this represents a 15 year supply and ties up a large amount of AIS funds over a long period of time, she suggested that this decision which was made following a recommendation by the Board of Counselors at the Spring meeting, might need to be reconsidered. Epperson moved that the Board reconsider its prior action to purchase 100 RVP pins at \$32 each; Gossett seconded. Carried. Discussion followed during which it was emphasized that this is purely a matter of finances and that the Board is in no way criticizing the RVP recommendation.

Epperson moved that the prior action to order 100 pins at \$32 each be rescinded; Marley seconded. Carried. It was suggested that AIS might subsidize the cost and sell the pins to the regions at a reduced price.

Epperson moved that the Board of Directors authorize purchase of 25 RVP pins to be sold from the Storefront to regions at \$32 each; G. Snyder seconded. Carried. Pins will be ordered from: J. B. Trophies, 1348 Coleman Place, Santa Clara, CA 95050.

Plank reported that the mockup of the proposed *Invitation To Join* brochure is nearing completion and will be mailed to Board members for review. Bids for printing are being finalized. The Exhibitions Chair will use previously printed forms until the new brochure is available in early spring 2002.

Secretary: Marley reported that the new computer system is working well and has made her job much easier.

She noted that the Decennial Report form accompanied by the \$52 fee has been filed with the Pennsylvania Department of State to comply with the incorporation laws under which the AIS was formed. To ensure validity, a Pennsylvania resident must be the contact person. Vince Lewonski will serve in that capacity until September 2011.

She announced that the Secretary's office will be closed during the month of November due to the upcoming trip to Nebraska and Oregon. She requested that submission of all bills be held until her return.

Treasurer: Hudson distributed a comprehensive annual report which showed an overall increase in revenue despite a decrease in donations to restricted funds. The drop in interest rates for renewal of one CD was noted. The fiscal year ended with a positive balance despite several major expenses, and, even with the economic problems facing our country, AIS finances have performed in a very positive way. Hudson stated that there is good diversification in our investments and accounts and he expects growth in revenues and reserves to continue.

Editor: Aitken reported that the *Bulletin* is currently on budget. He presented the proposed *Bulletin* budget for 2002, noting that it is considerably less than the 2001 budget due to decreased printing costs.

Aitken initiated discussion as to the feasibility of binding the Symposium into the *Bulletin* with the ballot as a tear-out. He noted that printing this as a part of the *Bulletin* would be a considerable saving over the current separate printing of the Symposium and it would eliminate

the mailing service cost of including it in the envelope with the July *Bulletin*. During discussion it was decided that this matter should be presented to those directly involved (RVPs and members of their affiliates) before any action is taken. Symposium Chair G. Snyder will contact RVPs re this and will bring their input to the Board in Memphis.

Election of new Editor: A written report from Assistant Editor Bruce Filardi was presented by Aitken who noted that Filardi has been involved in all areas of *Bulletin* production during the past 2 years and is willing to assume the Editor's position as an independent contractor at a salary of \$6000/year. Mahan suggested that the new Editor be elected at this time. Epperson moved that Bruce Filardi be elected Editor of the *Bulletin of the American Iris Society* with an annual compensation of \$6000; Plank seconded. Carried unanimously.

Advertising Editor: No report was received from Chairman Peters. Hudson noted an increase in 2001 Advertising revenues. However he stated that, although Peters has deposited checks during the year, no records for these deposits or accounting of expenses incurred have been received. Following discussion, Mahan instructed the Editor and 1st V-P to contact Peters regarding submission of timely reports.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORTS

Membership: Chairman Whitehead was not present and her written reports were distributed by the Secretary. The Membership report noted that on September 30, 2001, the total membership of AIS was 7402 which is 334 fewer than a year ago. Leading regions are 14 (681), 4 (649), and 18 (601 which includes 126 youth members). There are 215 Overseas memberships.

Whitehead presented the results of the Life Member Census. She reported that currently there are 445 Life Memberships with 109 being Dual. There are 22 Life Memberships in 10 foreign countries.

She listed by region those Life Memberships which she has been unable to verify and requested assistance in obtaining information about these persons.

Whitehead requested clear articulation of any existing policy governing refunds of dues and suggested possible wording for a policy to deal with this. M. Lowe reported no existing policy. J. Plank moved that AIS issue no refunds of dues; Probst seconded. Carried.

Whitehead suggested eliminating *Bulletin* exchange with several foreign iris societies due to non-reciprocity. The Board felt that every effort should be made to continue publication contact with these countries. Mahan and International Editor M. Sutton will work with Membership on this.

Whitehead addressed the need to reprint Life Member Gold Cards if issuance is to be continued. Probst moved that AIS continue to issue a Gold Life Membership card and that the card be redesigned to eliminate the printed name of the Membership Secretary but providing space for the signature of the Secretary; Meyer seconded. Carried. It was stated that any current Life Member who has never received a card may obtain one by contacting the Membership Secretary.

In discussing generalities, Whitehead suggested that AIS might be better served by returning to the twice yearly enrollment periods. Discussion and action was deferred to the Spring meeting.

Registrar: Keppel distributed his report which presented estimated figures for printing the 2001 *Registrations and Introductions* booklet. Keppel requested Board action re the number of copies to print. Niswonger moved that 1000 copies be printed; M. Lowe seconded. A tie vote resulted and Mahan broke the tie by voting Nay. Motion defeated.

Aitken moved that 800 copies be printed; M. Lowe seconded. Carried.

Keppel reported that the Benson records have not been received by the Registrar's office.

Following discussion it was decided by consensus that no increase in the Registration fee was needed at this time.

Recording Secretary: A. Lowe announced that she plans to distribute these minutes electronically since all involved have e-mail.

Storefront Sales: Chairman N. Pocklington has been ill and is currently in hospital. Irv Pocklington has informed Marley that all matters of the Storefront are up-to-date. Treasurer Hudson noted that sales revenues are listed in the annual financial report.

Surplus Bulletins: Meyer reported 1580 *Bulletins* have been sent out during 2001. Since *Bulletins* must be a year old before they can be considered surplus, Meyer reported very few on hand and she questioned whether this activity can be continued with the reduced number of *Bulletins* currently available. Editor Aitken noted that this activity was set up originally to reduce stock of extra *Bulletins* acquired as a result of over-runs and that currently 500 extra copies of each issue are being printed. Aitken asked for input on reducing this number. The Board felt that distribution of surplus *Bulletins* was an excellent PR tool and that no changes should be made at this time.

Meyer requested Board permission to send out Membership brochures from the Sections and Cooperating Societies (if they request it) when she ships surplus *Bulletins*. Agreement by consensus.

RVP Representative: Mahan welcomed JaNiece Mull who stated that she had no issues to bring before the Board.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Operations Manual Draft: Epperson reported that 60% of the material had been received and formatted. The remainder will be completed prior to the spring meeting at which time the complete Operations Manual will be presented to all Officers and Directors and pertinent sections will be given to all Committee Chairs and Administrative Officers. In the interest of economy it was recommended that the pages be punched for a 3-ring binder and shrink-wrapped for distribution.

Bulletin Indexing: Aitken reported that the group plans to work the *Bulletins* from the 1980s during the winter and hope to complete these by spring. A list of missing earlier *Bulletins* needed to complete the project is being compiled.

RVP Handbook Revision: Probst reported that the handbook was ready for the printer and presented estimated costs for printing. He requested guidance re number of copies to be printed. Hudson moved that 100 copies be printed in 3-ring binder format; Mark seconded. Carried.

It was noted that this document has not been distributed to Officers and Directors for review and approval of all policies contained therein prior to publication. Probst was directed to distribute draft copies to officers and directors for review and to set a timely date for submission of revisions so that the final copy can be printed and ready for distribution at/before the spring meeting.

501(c)(3) Status: Epperson noted that R. Plank is handling all the applications and that the process is ongoing.

AIS Logo: John Jones stated that he has not completed redrawing the AIS logo as directed at the spring meeting and that he and M. Lowe have not completed formulation of the requested policy for usage of the logo. A report will be forthcoming in Memphis.

Storefront Shipping Fees Review: Hudson reported that the committee had met and that revised dual shipping fees have been established. [*Note: new shipping fee schedule to be approved by the Board.*]

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Affiliates: Chairman Pope distributed a list of 182 affiliates and moved that the list be approved; Epperson seconded. Carried.

Affiliate Project Chairman Bob Keup submitted a written report in which he noted that information packets had been sent to all affiliates and RVPs and that the first nominations for the award were due in January. He requested direction from the Board re the type of award that should be presented to the winning affiliate. Following discussion, Marley moved that the winner of the Affiliate Contest be awarded an appropriate certificate; Gossett seconded. Carried.

Awards: Mahan reported that he has been unable to contact Chairman Campbell and that no Awards report has been received. He mentioned several other committees whose functions were impacted by the lack of response from this committee.

With reference to the awards given to 3 uncertified foreign irises erroneously placed on the 2001 ballot, Registrar Keppel noted the frustrations and extra work involved in verifying that an iris bred in a foreign country has been first introduced (offered for sale) in North America. He defined the Certification Process as follows: "a signed statement from the foreign hybridizer to the Registrar stating that an iris has not been distributed for sale outside of North America during the first shipping season." He stated that the 2001 ballot was not submitted to the Registrar for verification as it usually is and that subsequently 3 foreign irises not eligible for inclusion had received awards. Lengthy discussion ensued concerning whether foreign originated irises should be included on the AIS Awards ballot at all. Consensus was that they should be if qualifications for eligibility are met, but that the certification process was a duty of the Awards Committee not the Registrar. J. Plank moved that the function of certification of foreign irises for eligibility for AIS Awards be transferred from the Registrar's office to the Awards Committee; Pope seconded. Carried.

It was noted nothing has been done in the ordering of the keeper trophies. This matter is referred to the incoming Awards Chairman.

Calendars: Chairman Rice-Waters reported that work was in progress on the 2003 calendars and her report detailed expected costs and expenses. She expressed concern over not knowing how many 2002 calendars remain in the Storefront.

Convention Liaison: Chairman Gossett distributed an updated list of upcoming Spring and Fall meetings. Concern was expressed about the distance of Santa Rosa (Fall 2004) from the area airports. Gossett will contact the club for information re availability and costs of transportation to/from the airports in the region.

Electronic Services: Chairman Jones announced that the 1969 *Check List* will soon be uploaded to the Online Database which currently has 472 subscribers. Jones' report included monthly sales figures for the online AIS Gift Shop.

In response to many requests to provide the Check Lists in downloadable form, Jones moved that AIS allow the 1989 (and older when available) *Check Lists* in electronic form to be downloaded at no charge. He further proposed that we maintain a \$10.00 annual subscription fee for the 1999 *Check List* and the individual *Registrations and Introductions* (starting with the 2000 *R&I*) until the sales of the hard copy versions recover the cost of printing, at which time they become downloadable at no cost. G. Snyder seconded. Carried.

Jones presented a report from webmaster Hollinshead who listed his initial goals and stated that these had all been accomplished. The group expressed pleasure at the current format and content of the AIS website.

Re listing of commercial advertisers on the website, Hollinshead requested definition of the term "current AIS *Bulletin* advertiser" and suggested some guidelines. Jones moved that a Current AIS *Bulletin* Advertiser be defined as "a commercial concern that has published one or more paid advertisements, (either as a display or Shopping Section ad) in the *Bulletin* in the preceding calendar or current year, such to be listed in the appropriate section of the website. Epperson seconded. Carried. Implementation will begin at the end of 2001. Jones noted that the website was an accurate and useful PR tool providing an adjunct to the *Bulletin* as well as another avenue for increasing membership.

Exhibitions: Chairman Epperson reported evaluation/approval of 182 Show Schedules for 2001. Region 22 was commended for mounting 19 shows and Epperson noted the excellent participation of Youth members in both horticultural and design sections.

At this time the 2001 Nelson Award which honors the iris most often selected Best Specimen of Show has been won by **Conjuration**. Since several final reports have not yet been received, this may change.

Epperson reported that the medals reported on in the spring were not of the former quality nor were they exactly the same design. He passed around samples of these medals which received mixed reaction. The new medals will be used beginning in 2002.

Foundation Liaison: Foundation Trustee Claire Honkanen distributed a comprehensive Foundation report which will be published in the April *Bulletin*.

Honorary Awards: Following the Executive session, Mahan announced the following Honorary

Awards recipients: Distinguished Service Medal: Bob Plank; Hybridizers Medal: Marvin Granger, Hooker Nichols; Warburton Medal: Brian Mathew; Emeritus Judges: Glenn Corlew, Clarence Mahan, Barbara Schmieder, John Weiler.

Insurance: Chairman M. Snyder reported that within the past few days, efforts to obtain a reasonable quote for a package policy have fallen through. This policy must contain coverage for the AIS, Sections, Regions and all their members; \$5,000,000 liability coverage; and most importantly, coverage for the gardens being used in conjunction with an AIS function. AIS will continue to deal with Travelers Insurance Co. and Snyder will investigate getting an umbrella policy to cover tour gardens in time for the Memphis Convention.

New Historical Iris Chronicles Project: Chairman Whitehead's written report requested attention to the following:

- (1) that the New Historical Chronicles Project has permission to publish...any materials protected by copyright held by AIS.

It was noted that since this Project is an internal matter, no permission is required.

- (2) that the monetary charge for access to and use of the Electronic Website or other AIS electronic research facilities be waived for primary compilers and their staff while they are working on their Chronicle.

Deferred pending report of Electronic Services Committee. No further action taken.

Judges' Handbook Revision: Chairman Epperson moved that the Board endorse the action taken in the spring regarding crediting of Awards and Ballots training; Gossett seconded. Carried unanimously.

Epperson's report detailed the flower sizes for Median irises in both the 1985 and 1998 *Handbooks*, noting that the statements in the 1998 *Handbook* were recommended by the Median Iris Society to underscore proportion in the BB, IB and SDB classes. Epperson moved that AIS endorse the flower sizes as stated on pages 74, 84 and 100 of the 1998 *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*; J. Morris seconded. Carried.

Keppel requested that the definitions for the iris classes be corrected and revised. He noted that height and bloom season should be part of the definition while the bloom size should be listed as the class standards.

Epperson directed attention to the incorrect statement on p. 27 in the *Handbook* which states that: "...the American Dykes Medal is restricted to irises first introduced in the United States or Canada *regardless of origin*." These last words are not in line with the BIS rules for awarding of this medal and should be stricken. Niswonger moved that the words "regardless of origin" be removed from the statement; Morris seconded. Carried.

Since it was previously recommended that revisions be made every 5 years, Epperson stated that 2003 was the year in which the next revisions would be made.

Judges and Judges' Training: Gossett presented Chairman Mullin's written report to which the list of qualified judges was appended. Mullin stated that the voting records from the 2001 Ballot were not available from the Awards Chairman, therefore no judges were dropped for failure to vote for a second consecutive year. Of the 929 judges approved for 2002, 696 will be qualified to vote the official ballot. No action was taken on issues presented for possible future consideration.

Mullin noted that this report completes his term in office and he expressed thanks for being allowed to serve AIS in this capacity. Gossett moved approval of the list of judges; Epperson seconded. Carried.

Library: Chairman McNames' written report was distributed. He listed the foreign bulletins presently being received by the Library. He also noted the impending arrival of material from Larry Harder which is being delivered by the Marleys. This material will be sorted and cataloged by McNames with contributions to the Silent Auction as appropriate.

Membership Contest: No report.

Policy: Chairman M. Lowe outlined the difficulties encountered in the present method of preparation and distribution of Policy. He offered CDs containing 'Minutes 1988-Spring 2001' to those who wanted them, and requested input regarding usefulness of this means of dissemination. Lowe will furnish copies of the CD as needed.

Public Relations and Marketing: No report.

Rare Iris Study Center: No report from Chairman Waddick. Niswonger reported receipt of seeds from Nina Alexeeva in Leningrad, most of which have been sent to SIGNA for distribution.

Registrations: Keppel reported more than 700 registrations completed to date and noted that although the past year has brought some unique problems with international registrations, most interactions with registrants have been accomplished peaceably. He also noted that he has been serving as the Acting Registrar for the past seven years while the Board finds a permanent Registrar.

Robins: Chairman Cross distributed a written report. She noted the need to update and reprint a new Robin *Invitation To Join* brochure which is included in the AIS New Member packet, and she presented the updated revisions, options for paper and costs. Following discussion, J. Plank moved that the robin brochure be updated as described, and that 1000 copies be printed on 60 pound stock; Epperson seconded. Carried.

Cross requested that she receive advance payment for this project. Request approved by consensus.

RVP Counselor: B. Figge was not present and the complete list of recommended RVP appointments for 2002 was not received during the meeting. The following list was assembled by those present and later confirmed when Paul Gossett contacted Figge by telephone:

Terms expiring in 2002:		Terms expiring in 2003:		Terms expiring in 2004:	
Region		Region		Region	
4	JaNiece Mull	6	Sandra Rawlings	1	Bob Sawyer Region
13	John Ludi	14	Margaret Sutton	19	Mary Townsend
7	Eleanor Boyson	8	Marsha VandeBrake	2	Donna James
24	Hazel Jones	15	Gerry Snyder	20	Betty Roberts
12	Leon Robertson*	9	Jerry Wilhoit	3	Jay Holcomb
		16	Sandy Ives	21	Eugene Kalkwarf
		10	Charles J. Walkowiak	5	Joyce Thrift
		18	Ray Keisling	23	Patricia Randall
		11	Eileen Allison	17	Keith Smith
		22	M. D. Faith		

*unable to contact; status uncertain as of 11/3/01.
Gossett moved approval of the list; Pope seconded. Carried

Scientific: Chairman Fulton submitted the following report:

Dr. Currier McEwen is completing the AIS "Disease Project" which started in 1992. The study has focused on scorch-like diseases in apogons. Dr. McEwen is preparing a detailed report on the study for publication and I have worked with him on this report. The report examines each possible cause of the scorch-like diseases, including insects, nematodes, bacteria, mycoplasma-like organisms, viruses and fungi. It describes attempts to treat affected plants and to induce scorch by inoculation of healthy plants. While it has not been possible to reach a firm conclusion about a cause or excuses for the disease(s) this careful study serves as a model for analysis of such syndromes in irises.

In collaboration with Dr. McEwen and Sharon Hayes Whitney, I have evaluated both plants and flowers among Christy Hensler's putative JI X SIB hybrids growing in Dr. McEwen's garden. I also attempted systematic crosses between JI-like and SIB-like plants. A report on this work will be forthcoming.

No report has been received from Andrew Wheeler on the "Mutation Project" which you funded in 1998. In any case, it will be another 2-3 years before the offspring of treated plants flower.

Mahan noted that Fulton is concerned about the current policy re publishing scientific articles as stated in the *Bulletin*. He feels that this might discourage submission of interesting articles to the Editor. He recommends that the following statement in the front of the *Bulletin* be removed: "Technical articles reporting the results of research will be summarized as news reports, with references made to specialized journals where more complete information can be found." Niswonger moved removal of the statement; G. Snyder seconded. Carried.

Scholarship: Mahan reported that Chairman Shear has suggested that the name of this committee

might be changed to 'Scholarship/Grant' as our Scholarship Fund functions as a grant. He further suggested that the use of the term 'grant' in the academic canvass letter might clarify our position and increase response. Following discussion it was decided by consensus to retain the present Scholarship Committee title and to authorize Shear to phrase the letter as appropriate to the academic world.

Secretary of Donations: Chairman J. Plank noted that donations to AIS continue "flat" with the primary factor being the lack of a stimulating, broadly appealing cause. Plank suggested that interest might be stimulated via articles in the *Bulletin* spotlighting the work of a given fund and what help donations have provided for this work. Rosalie Figge was complimented on her recent *Bulletin* article dealing with bequests to AIS. She distributed several examples of other ways in which one might make bequests to AIS. It was felt that these would be valuable 'fillers' in the *Bulletin* and Figge and Plank will collaborate on writing up these options.

Section Liaison: Chairman Probst presented a current list of Section officers along with a copy of the form he uses to update this information. He also distributed a list of scheduled Section and Cooperating Society Mini-Conventions which was updated from the floor.

Silent Auction: Chairman Meyer presented the statistics from the 2001 auction and reported on the problems encountered during this auction. She made the following recommendations for Silent Auction 2002: try for more variety in items donated; encourage convention attendees to patronize this sale; open the Silent Auction a day earlier in the convention and close earlier in the evening. It was suggested that lesser known hybridizers be contacted for donation of rhizomes. Meyer will follow up on this.

Meyer presented a request from a section regarding the possibility of a "piggy back" auction in conjunction with the AIS silent auction in order to raise monies for publication of the Section Check List. Following discussion it was decided by concurrence that any section fund raiser should be carried out as a part of that section meeting.

Slides: Chairman Mull presented a comprehensive report detailing actions undertaken during the past year. The most popular slide set continues to be *Newest Introductions*, and plans for several new slide sets are in the works. Mull emphasized the ongoing need for slides from hybridizers and members and he stressed the importance of slides as a tool to publicize the iris to general gardening groups. Mull noted that, despite recent problems with anthrax, the current policy of using USPS priority mail will continue.

Symposium: G. Snyder gave an oral report in which he stated that those problems which had arisen had been satisfactorily solved. During discussion it was agreed that no changes should be made to the current voting deadline with exceptions being allowed for Canada and Overseas ballots at Snyder's discretion.

Youth: Chairman Jean Morris read her report. AIS youth members total 413 of which 239 are regular youth members and 174 are CIP members. She noted the recent project in Region 3 where youth members planted historic irises at Woodville Plantation as well as several other youth projects which have received significant recognition. She noted much youth activity in Region 14 and reported a suggestion that a major Youth Conference be held during the 2004 Convention in Region 14. Mahan asked that the list of those who have donated irises to youth members be published as part of the Youth Report in the *Bulletin*. Morris reminded Jones that she needed the Youth Certificates he was working up; Jones will deliver in November.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Pesticide/herbicide ads in future *Bulletins*:** During the Spring meeting, much discussion centered around the ad on the outside back cover of the April *Bulletin* which featured a product advertised as an iris borer deterrent. At that time, "Hudson moved that, effective immediately, AIS not accept any ads for pesticides or herbicides in the *Bulletin*;" J. Plank seconded. During discussion Bob Plank was asked to research the legal implications of such an action. Subsequently, Epperson moved that Hudson's motion be tabled until the Fall meeting; Pope seconded. Carried." At this meeting Plank stated that he had not prepared a report of the legalities involved but that he would do so for the meeting in Memphis. However, as the motion was not removed from the table during this meeting, this motion died.
- **Bylaws Revision Committee:** Appointment of committee deferred until after elections.
- **Display Screen Replacement:** A new company has been chosen to make the replacement AIS Display Screens. Since many of the existing photographs can be reused, the cost will be less

than that allotted at the 2001 spring meeting. The logo on the new headboards will show the correct year (1920) of founding.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Hiring of a computer consultant to assist in the transfer of membership data to a new computer:** Aitken explained the need for an expert in PC programs and conversions to tell us what is needed to convert from the current membership program to a new and more manageable way of doing the job. He emphasized the need to get conversion in place before a new membership secretary takes over in August 2002. During discussion Jones stated that the consultant should first develop the specifications for an appropriate program to handle the job and that Aitken should oversee the process. Following presentation of projected costs, Jones moved that AIS budget \$10,000 for conversion of the membership database and authorize an initial expenditure of not more than \$1000 for the consultant to provide specifications for a new database—the President to be in charge of this project; G. Snyder seconded. Carried. Jones will serve as in-house consultant.
- **Non-cashing of AIS checks for section renewal dues:** The Section Liaison Committee will contact the section involved.
- **Anthrax concern:** Hudson reported that membership Secretary Whitehead is concerned about the danger of anthrax in the mail she is required to handle. She is considering taking the anthrax inoculation and has asked that AIS pay half the cost of this immunization. Agreement by consensus.

Election of Officers

Mahan called for nominations for President:

Epperson moved that President-Elect Designee Terry Aitken be nominated for President; Niswonger seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be directed to cast a unanimous ballot for Aitken; Plank seconded. Carried.

Epperson moved that J. Plank be nominated for First Vice-President; Marley seconded. Epperson moved that nominations be closed and that the Secretary be directed to cast a unanimous vote for Plank; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Hudson nominated R. Epperson for Second Vice-President; Niswonger seconded. Hudson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be directed to cast a unanimous ballot for Epperson; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

J. Plank nominated S. Marley for Secretary; J. Morris seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be directed to cast a unanimous ballot; Plank seconded. Carried.

Plank nominated J. Hudson for Treasurer; Morris seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be directed to cast a unanimous ballot for Hudson. Carried.

Mahan thanked the Board for all their help and support during the past three years. He praised the group for meeting issues head-on and for making decisions rather than deferring action on many issues. He stated that he perceived an overall harmonious working relationship within AIS at the present time. He feels that AIS is strong and, under the leadership of the new President, will continue to prosper in the days ahead. He reiterated the need to simplify administrative procedures. He then turned the Chair over to President Terry Aitken.

Jeanne Plank displayed the first AIS Gold Medal which was awarded to John Wister many years ago. She stated that this important part of AIS history would be given to each incoming AIS President to be held by him/her during the time in office. She presented the medal to Aitken.

Aitken thanked the group for supporting him and stated that he would be calling on them for help in the future. He echoed Mahan's call to simplify procedures, adding that the workload of those involved in running AIS needed to be lightened. He stated his intention to use e-mail and other forms of electronic communication as much as possible during his administration.

President Aitken requested approval of the following appointments:

Administrative Officers:

Registrar: Keith Keppel

Membership Secretary: Anner Whitehead

Recording Secretary: Jill Bonino

Publication Sales Director: Irv and Nancy Pocklington

Standing Committee Chairmen

Affiliates: Shirley Pope

Awards: Roy Epperson

Calendars: Olive Rice-Waters

Convention Liaison: Paul Gossett

Electronic Services: John Jones
 Exhibitions: Jason Leader
 Foundation Liaison: Roger Mazur
 Honorary Awards: Clarence Mahan
 Insurance: Michelle Snyder
 Judges: Bonnie & Hooker Nichols
 Judges Handbook Revision: Roy Epperson
 Librarian: Keith McNames
 Membership Contest: Lynda Miller
 New Historical Iris Chronicles: Anner Whitehead
 Policy and *Historical Resource: Mike & Anne Lowe
 Public Relations & Marketing: Joyce Poling
 Rare Iris Study Center: James Waddick
 Registrations: Keith Keppel
 Robins: Libby Cross
 RVP Counselor: Riley Probst
 Scientific: Dr. Chandler Fulton
 Scholarship: Dr. William Shear
 Secretary of Donations: Jeanne Clay Plank
 Section Liaison: Maureen Mark
 Silent Auction/Surplus *Bulletins*: Carryl Meyer
 Slides: Bill Mull
 Symposium: Gerry Snyder
 Youth: Jean Morris

*Aitken noted that the position of Historian has been eliminated, the committee retitled and combined with Policy.

Director: Peter Weixlmann to fill the Director's position vacated by Epperson's election as 2nd Vice President Epperson moved approval of all appointments; Gossett seconded. Carried.

Honorary Awards Committee: Aitken, acting on the advice of the incoming Honorary Awards Chairman, recommended the appointment of Hilda Crick, Bennett Jones and Adele Lawyer as members-at-large to the Honorary Awards Committee. Niswonger moved approval; Probst seconded. Carried.

Epperson reminded the group that committee chairs may not appoint their committee members without approval of the President.

Bylaws Revision Committee: Aitken appointed Roy Epperson, Bob Plank, Everett Lineberger and Mike Lowe; Epperson to chair. Niswonger moved approval; Mahan seconded. Carried.

Epperson listed several matters which will be addressed during the revision and asked that further items be directed to his attention.

Budget: Treasurer Hudson distributed budget work sheets and the proposed budget was reviewed in detail. Estimated revenues and expenses were discussed line by line with appropriate changes being made as needed. Hudson will prepare the revised budget and send copies to all Board members via e-mail.

Marley asked that the Standard Banking Practice Resolution be approved. Plank moved that AIS approve the Standard Banking Practice; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Announcements:

RVP Eleanor Boyson of Region 7 invited all to the 2002 National Convention in Memphis.

The group was reminded of the British Iris Society meeting in May 2002.

Aitken thanked Roy Epperson and the Eastern North Carolina Iris Society for providing such comfortable surroundings for this meeting. Epperson noted that the hosting of this meeting was a joint effort of the ENCIS and Region 4. He saluted ENCIS members Glenn and Susan Grigg for their operation of the Hospitality room and Region 4 for underwriting the cost of the meals.

Adjournment: J. Plank moved adjournment; Gossett seconded. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M. on November 3, 2001.

Anne S. Lowe
 Recording Secretary

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
Consolidated Cash Financial Statement
Fiscal Year Ending 9-30-01

Income

Restricted Fund Donations	\$3,348
Unrestricted Donations	2,130
Silent Auction	4,054
Earned Interest	14,769
Section Dues	763
Membership Dues	91,411
Bulletin Advertising	14,656
Committees	13,747
Other Income	533
Registrations	5,393
Storefront Sales	44,525
AIS Giftshop	802
IRS Refund	1,144
Total Income	\$197,274

Expense

Web Site	328
Professional Fees	289
Restricted Funds/Scholarships	4,721
Advertising	120
Bank Service Charges	41
Bulletin Expense	94,897
Committee Expense	18,738
Donations	500
Insurance	7,030
Membership Secretary	17,522
Miscellaneous	154
Recording Secretary	200
Registrar	531
Returned Checks	42
Storefront	40,823
Secretary	2,084
Section Expense	779
Officers	323
Treasurer Expense	496
Total Expense	\$189,618
Net Income	\$7,656

Balance Sheet**Current Assets**

Checking/Money Market	94,689
General Fund CD Account	51,170
Life Membership CD Acct.	112,842
Total Checking/Savings	258,701
Total Current Assets	\$258,701

Memphis Blues



Arkansas Blues



After the AIS Convention in Memphis,
Cross the Mississippi River
for the
Society for Louisiana Irises
Convention
May 3-5, 2002
Little Rock, Arkansas

For information, contact:
Central Arkansas Iris Society
12 Normandy Road
Little Rock, AR 72207
501.666.7882
email: SLI2002LR@aol.com

The Louisiana Iris....Naturally!

AIS Storefront

Sale Items & Publications

The World of Irises

Highly recommended! 32 pages of full color. Edited by Warburton and Hamblen, 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. Published in 1978 and most authoritative book on all phases of irises. Scientific and popular. 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover, 526 pages. \$27.00
Quantity discounts: 10% off for 10 or more / 20% off for 100 or more

Handbook for Judges and Show Officials

New release! Sixth Edition ©1998. \$15.00

Basic Iris Culture. Booklets. Great information for new iris growers. Ideal for clubs or shows. \$1.50 ea., or 25 for \$15.00 domestic/\$20.00 overseas

Convention Handbook. Free

AIS Bulletins: Back Issues (not all issues available).

\$2.00 ea. domestic/\$4.50 ea. overseas

Check Lists: 1939, 1949, 1959, 1969, & 1979.

Reprint. Soft cover. \$14.00 ea. domestic/\$20.00 ea. overseas

Check Lists: 1989 or 1999

Hard cover. Ten-year compilation of registrations.

\$17.00 ea. domestic/\$25.00 ea. overseas

Registrations and Introductions: 2000.

\$7.00 ea. domestic/\$10.00 ea. overseas

Registrations and Introductions:

Years 1984, 1985, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999.

Clearance Sale: \$2.00 each!

View Before You Buy!

The official AIS Website now has photos of several of the Storefront sales items, so you can see what they look like.

Go to: www.irises.org

75th Anniversary Commemorative Medal

Solid Silver, 1½ inches across. Only 500 struck. \$25.00

75th Anniversary Bulletin. \$2.00 domestic/\$4.50 overseas

Bronze 50th Anniversary Medals

The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards. \$2.50

AIS Seals (50 per pack)

Self-adhesive ovals are larger than a half dollar. Official design in blue and green on silver background. \$2.50, 1 pack; \$10.00, 5 packs

2002 Iris Calendar

\$6.00 each, or \$33.00 domestic/\$40.00 overseas for packs of 10

Iris Post Cards (16 per pack)

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AIS Bulletin Ad Rates

"Without advertising, a terrible thing happens... nothing!"

We are now using an all-electronic setup with our new printer. As a result, we can no longer simply paste ads on paper. All ads submitted on paper will be scanned. If you have graphic images or logos as part of your ad, it would be best if you send them on a disk, or email them directly to the Bulletin Editor at <editor@irises.org>. (Payment must still be made through the advertising editor.)

The outside back cover of the Bulletin is restricted to promotion of irises and prominent irisarians.

Shopping Section

Found in the back of each Bulletin. Placement is roughly alphabetical. Rate is for 4 issues. All ads are 2½ inch wide.

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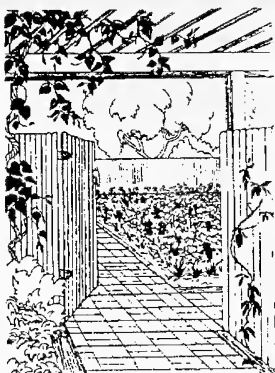
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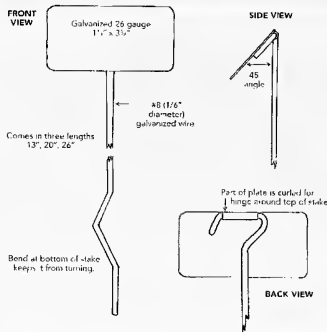
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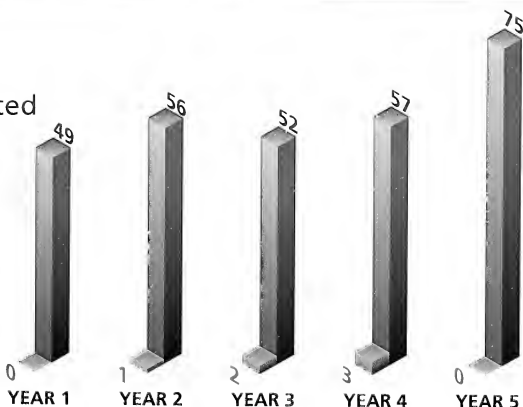
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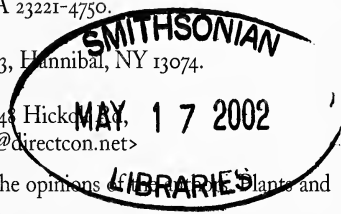
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Margaret Sutton, 16592 Road 208, Porterville CA 93257; (559) 784-9011; <suttons@lightspeed.net>

15: Southern California and Arizona:

Gerry Snyder, 7855 Ellenbogen St., Sunland CA 91040; (818) 352-7018; <gerrysnyder@attbi.net>

16: Canada:

Sandy Ives, 1077 Guertin Ave., Ottawa ON K1H 8B3, Canada; (613) 521-4597; <rives@rogers.com>

17: Texas:

Keith Smith, 6008 Wonder Drive, Ft. Worth, TX 76133-3623; (817) 292-5804; <masfw@flash.net>

18: Kansas and Missouri:

Ray Keisling, 12119 County Road A, Liberty, MO 64068-8114; (816) 792-1848;
<keisling@swbell.net>

19: New Jersey:

Mary Townsend, 62 Elizabeth Street, Pemberton, NJ 08068; (609) 894-4295; <mtownsend@nburlington.com>

20: Colorado:

Betty Roberts, 9055 Melbourne Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80920-7713; (719) 282-9642;
<florabetty@aol.com>

21: Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota:

Eugene Kalkwarf, 8521 West Haven Road, Lincoln, NE 68528-9137; (402) 474-4832;
<emeraldiris@alltel.net>

22: Arkansas and Oklahoma:

M.D. Faith, 210 W. Pleasure Ave., Searcy AR 72143-5316; (501) 268-9222; <mdfaith@bscn.com>

23: New Mexico:

Patricia Randall, 758 Hood Road SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124; (505) 891-8705; <patannran@earthlink.net>

24: Alabama and Mississippi:

President's Message

by Terry Aitken, Washington State

WE LIVE IN EXCITING TIMES. TEN YEARS AGO PERSONAL (home) computers were a relative novelty. Today they are becoming a necessity with almost all Board members, chairs and RVPs being immediately available via email. Another major factor in this technical revolution is "Desktop Publishing". At this time there is a tremendous demand for volunteers with publishing skills. Newsletter editors for local clubs, Regional and Section editors are all in search of technical assistance in this area. If you have these computer skills and can volunteer time and equipment, please let it be known to those working in your area of interest. It is a lot more fun working on these types of projects when you have friends with whom to collaborate. There is also an element of comfort in knowing that there is someone there to help in times of crisis such as illness, vacations, or issues that need discussion.




Terry Aitken, AIS President

We are still in a "learning phase" in dealing with email as a business process. This winter, the issue of a sales promotion for *The World of Iris* came up. First there was a round of discussion which included members of the Board, committee chairs and RVPs. Feedback was analyzed and a vote of the Board followed. This resulted in a change in the quantity discounts for *The World of Iris*. New rates were passed on to all Board members, committee chairs and RVPs, who in turn will pass the information to their clubs. These new rates are published in this issue. John Ludi, our new Storefront chair, tells me that *The World of Iris* is moving well.

Another looming issue is a need for people with the necessary skills and access to equipment to do chromosome counts on a variety of iris types. Whether this is dealt with as a scholarship assist for college

students or through voluntary services remains to be seen. Perhaps both are needed, as any results will need to be tested and verified by several different sources to establish validity. If you are aware of projects or people that would benefit from this activity, please bring this to my attention.

I am happy to report that the dues increase that was just instituted has had almost no impact on membership numbers, and there has been a slight shift towards triennial membership. We can now look ahead to "growing the society".

Spring is upon us. Work towards making this your best iris year by sharing your good fortune with a friend. 

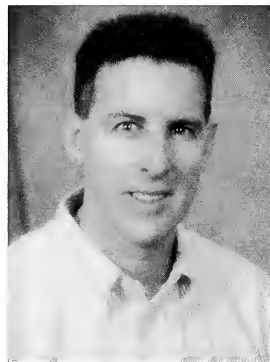
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Editor's Message

by Bruce Filardi, Oregon

TO START OFF, I'D LIKE TO EXPRESS MY WARMEST WISHES AND congratulations to Dr. Currier McEwen, on the occasion of his 100th birthday. Dr. McEwen has spent a good part of the last century as the dean of beardless iris hybridizers, leading the pack in working with both diploid and tetraploid Japanese and Siberian iris. An autobiographical article by Dr. McEwen can be found in the *Bulletin* of April of 2000, on the occasion of his receipt of the AIS Gold Medal. There is also a wonderful article about him in the most recent issue of *New England Gardening Journal*. I know that all iris lovers will join with me in wishing him a Happy Birthday – and many more!



Bruce Filardi, Editor

When I was growing up, my mother would often cite the old saying: "Pride goeth before a fall." Perhaps I didn't listen well enough – or perhaps I was too intrigued with "goeth" instead of "goes". At any rate, I had thought that I could put together my first issue of the *Bulletin* without errors. Well, it just didn't happen!

First of all, as many of us are getting ready for the National Convention in Memphis, I'd like to acknowledge all the time and effort and planning that Elke LongSworth has put into making the Convention a success. And I hope that we will all note the "s" in the middle of Elke's last name. Elke's name came in on one document without that pesky "s" – and I proceeded to mis-correct her name elsewhere to match...

And then there are the Shirleys. When I received the Median Top Ten results from "Riley and Shirley," I automatically gave credit to Shirley Pope. Ms. Pope has indeed performed many services for the iris world, but credit as co-compiler of the Median Top Ten should have

gone to Shirley TRIO. In addition, as will happen when columns of data are transferred through four or five computers, a few of the medians took it into their heads to migrate a bit. STARBABY should have been in the SDB column and SOLOMON'S GLORY in the ABMED column.

In my own article, the very interesting arilbred SDB RETURN TO AGA should have been credited to hybridizer Robert Annand.

As iris season approaches, all iris judges are thinking about their AIS Ballot, which arrived in early March. A few years ago, before I was a judge, the whole process of voting for the Dykes Medal winner seemed to be an esoteric – and even mystical – process. I didn't even understand the difference between an AM and an HM. Now, as a judge, I understand the whys and wherefores of the awards system. However, since less than 10% of AIS members are judges, I'd like to shed a little light on the system. To that end, I have asked Roy Epperson, the Awards Chair, to write an article on voting the ballot. His article appears elsewhere in this issue. I have also put together some excerpts from the *Judge's Handbook*, both as a "refresher" for current judges, and to provide some guidelines for non-judges to assess the merit of their irises as good garden plants. I urge all interested parties to enter the Judges' Training program; there is no better way to learn about the plant you love.

Excerpts from the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*:

The judges' training program is one of the most vital parts of the American Iris Society. Members who serve as judges have duties and responsibilities to fulfill, so serving as a judge requires constant study, garden visiting, and growing a representative collection of irises.

The accredited judge is the backbone of the AIS judging program and is responsible for the selection of award winners. It is the judges' votes that determine which irises receive awards and thus are recommended to the public. Serving as a judge is an honor, and the duties should be fulfilled with dedication. The judge is a representative of the American Iris Society and should conduct himself/herself in a manner which will bring credit to the organization.

A thorough knowledge of irises is the first requirement for judging. This should include all types of irises. The judge should understand the difference between judging on the show bench and in the garden.

When planning visits to other gardens, the judge should keep in mind that seeing an iris only once is not sufficient to truly evaluate the plant.

Evaluation of all irises should be based on two years of observation. It is not possible to make sound decisions regarding the performance of an iris without observing it for at least two seasons.

Every judge should continue to study written material and to attend training sessions to improve judging techniques. An exchange of ideas and opinions with other judges will improve one's abilities and broaden one's knowledge, as there is always something new to be learned.

The primary duty a judge should perform most conscientiously is judging varieties in the garden. Every category of the AIS Official Ballot is based on performance of irises in the garden. To vote intelligently, the judge must see as many varieties as possible and evaluate them for a two-year period under varied weather conditions. It is the judge's duty to evaluate the performance of irises in the garden. Never should his/her votes be based on shows, slides, publicity or popularity of a hybridizer. AIS awards should be based totally on garden performance.


When the judge evaluates the worthiness of an iris in the garden, it should be for its garden value. The most important aspects of judging in the garden deal with the plant: its ability to produce increase, to produce numerous blossoms of quality, and to resist disease. Garden judging is very different from exhibition [show] judging, and judges should be sure they do not use exhibition techniques when judging in the garden.

All awards on the Official Ballot are based on garden judging. The judge must be thoroughly familiar with the AIS rules regarding these awards and must be certain that he/she is familiar with the traits of a good iris in the various classifications. A vote should never be cast for an iris when it does not conform to the requirements of the class in which it is listed. The instructions on the Ballot should be read carefully so that the maximum number of votes allowed is not exceeded.

When voting, it is not necessary to vote in every category on the Ballot.

The judge who only votes for irises from a few hybridizers or only for irises from a particular region may not be visiting enough gardens, or even worse, may be voting for his/her friends instead of fairly evaluating the irises. To vote or withhold a vote on the basis of the hybridizer involved indicates that the judge does not understand his/her duties.

No matter how much care is taken in evaluating the irises and marking the Ballot, it is to no avail unless the Ballot is mailed on time.

A good AIS judge should have integrity, and he/she must be flexible and conscientious. Most of all, an AIS judge must be willing to work hard to deserve the honor that has been bestowed upon him/her. 

Youth Views

by Jean E. Morris, Missouri

Spotlight on Region 3 Youth

Good things are happening in Region 3. The youth program is thriving under the leadership of Linda Golembieski, Regional Youth Chairman (RYC). Region 3 is the only region to have a Youth Advisor (YA) in each of its affiliate clubs. Linda, herself, serves as YA for Susquehanna, Charles & Betsy Conklin are YAs for Delaware Valley, Theresa Jewell holds the YA position for Diamond State, and Geraldine McFarland is YA for Pittsburgh. Leadership at the local level is really paying off with interesting youth events, unique achievements and a steady increase in youth membership. While we are unable to mention every event, Theresa Jewell and Geraldine McFarland were kind enough to share the following accounts of youth activities in Region 3.

Youth Member Wins National Award

by Theresa Jewell

Briana Hargett is a fifteen-year-old youth member of the Diamond State Iris Society. During the 1999-2000 school year, Briana and her friend Nicole Jackson grew Siberian irises in hydroponics units for a school Future Farmers of America (FFA) project. Their title was, "The Effect of Flow Rates on Plant Growth Within a Hydroponics Unit." They used CAESAR'S BROTHER and planted small pieces in three different hydroponics units, two commercially bought units and one homemade unit. All three were planted in Perlite and fed with a water and nutrient mix. They started the project in January and by March their plants were two feet tall and blooming, while the same irises in Briana's backyard were just peeking out of the ground. By the end of the school year the hydroponics irises were so tall they had to cut them back halfway just to bring them home. Briana then planted the irises in her neighbor's yard where they grew like mad.



The experiment concluded that the homemade unit had the fastest flow rate and the two commercially bought units had two different flow rates. The girls felt that the difference was caused by the units being placed at different heights and on an uneven surface. Both girls were amazed at how well the plants grew in the nutrient rich water.

On May 13, the girls took their iris project to the state FFA competition and won first place in the Botany Division. This qualified them to advance to the national competition which took place in October, 2000, in Louisville, Kentucky. They made a few improvements to their display board and brushed up their presentation before going. They won first place once more and evoked the curiosity of the judges who asked several questions about the project.

Briana is now in her third year of participation in FFA, where she shows cows and continues to do Agriscience projects. The members of the Diamond State Iris Society appreciate the many ways Briana serves her club and are proud of her accomplishments.

Planting Historic Irises at Woodville Plantation

by Geraldine McFarland

Seven youth members of the American Iris Society planted 75 historic iris rhizomes in a prepared garden site at Neville House, July 19, 2001. Neville House is situated on the property known as Woodville Plantation in Kirwin Heights and is owned by the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation.



L to R Back Row: Geraldine McFarland, Robert McFarland, Julianna Haag, Kaitlyn O'Brien-Rice, Christina Baraky, Janet Licciardello, Melissa Tatrai, Tracy Castle. L to R Front Row: Chad Graham, Markki Graham



Markki Graham and Chad Graham

The original 400-acre estate, located seven miles south of Pittsburgh on Chartiers Creek, has been reduced to a few acres, but the stately Virginia-style yellow frame house remains much the same as it was 200 years ago, with its white trimmed lattice, wrap-around porch, dark green shutters and gable roof.

The youth members who planted the irises were Tracy Castle, Melissa Tatrai, Chad & Markki Graham, Christina Baraky, Kaitlyn O'Brien-Rice and Julianna Hagg. Youth members involved in the project but not at the site planting were Holly Tatrai, Cameron Soergel, Cory, Erin & Heather Ritenour, and Samantha Gormley. The young people range in age from seven to seventeen.

Mrs. Campbell, President of Neville House Associates, provided bona fide 1785 colonial costumes for the youths to recreate an atmosphere relevant to the occasion. Assisting in the role play were Janet Licciardello representing Mrs. Neville, and Paul Day representing General Neville.

This fun and educational project was sponsored by AIS Region 3 and administered by Robert & Geraldine McFarland. The youths sanitized, weighed, measured and classified each of the 75 rhizomes, then recorded this information in a journal as part of the ongoing project. Future steps will be periodic soil sampling with Penn State Extension Service, measuring the iris growth, and reporting of data to

the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS). The youth members will maintain the garden over the period of the study.

The initial purpose of the project was to increase knowledge of Colonial American gardens. The irises selected for the project, as specified by HIPS, were those that might have been grown in the Neville House gardens circa 1750-1850. After completing the project, the youth members will be expected to know the difference between historic and modern irises, understand the need for historic iris preservation, appreciate historic irises, and share the knowledge they have gained in a written report.

Irises planted were *I. florentina* (1500), *I. swerti* (1612), *I. variegata* (1700), *I. sambucina* (1715), *I. pseudacorus* (1753), *I. pallida* "Odoratissima" (1800), HONORABILE (1840), MADAME CHEREAU (1844), and *I. pallida Dalmatica* "Zebra" (1850). The list had to be approved by a consulting committee from Colonial Williamsburg. The events of the planting project were covered by five area newspapers.

Rhizomes were donated by Joe & Donna Spears of Argyle Acres; Greg & Macey McCullough of Iris City Gardens; Tom & Rita Gormley of Gormley Greenery; Cindy Rust of Union, MO; Clarence Mahan of McLean, VA; and Robert & Geraldine McFarland of Rosslyn Farms, PA. Advisors for the project were Dr. George Gerhardt, Anner Whitehead, Dr. Arthur Tucker, Mike Lowe, Phil Edinger, J.C. Walters, Liz Schreiner Schmidt, Tom Abrego, Jay Holcomb, Vince Lewonski, Jean Morris, and Mr. & Mrs. Robert McFarland.

The project was well planned. Youth members worked in groups to accomplish the tasks of weighing and sorting rhizomes, mixing the soil, sectioning the garden, planting and watering, mapping, and applying a light pine bark mulch between the rows.

All in all, the event was a rewarding experience. The youths had fun and met new friends. The irises are doing well at Neville House. The project will continue until iris bloom in May. That will be the most exciting part as we see the bloom and think about how the Colonial people loved irises enough to include them in their gardens. Thanks to everyone for all of the support you have given us in this endeavor. We couldn't have done it without you!

AIS Coloring Contest Winners Announced

There were 39 entries in the 2001 Coloring Contest from 10 different regions of the AIS. Prizes were offered in four age categories. The Overall Winner for the second year in a row was Rachel Hindle of Region 18. Congratulations to this talented artist!


Those who won First Place in their age group were T.J. Segada, Reg. 3; Krissy Laing, Reg. 4; Clair Jewell, Reg. 3; and Rachel Hindle, Reg. 18.

Second Place winners were Chris Raymond, Reg. 18; Wade Archer, Reg. 14; Kendall Johnson, Reg. 18; Kira Archibald, Reg. 14; and Beth Rocha, Reg. 15

In Third Place were Taylor Branch, Reg. 15; John Hawel, Reg. 7; and Nicole Winkelmann, Reg. 9.

Creativity Awards were won by Jessie Callaway, Reg. 21; Jessica Clark, Reg. 18; Kate Rocha, Reg. 15; Heidi Muller, Reg. 11; Joe Forte, Reg. 15; Jennifer Plank, Reg. 3; Taylor Reina, Reg. 15; Stephanie Rust, Reg. 18; Christopher Rust, Reg. 18; Joshua Winzer, Reg. 18; and Elizabeth Shaw, Reg. 18.

Those winning Honorable Mention were Ranell Archer, Reg. 14; Brooklynn Courtney, Reg. 22; James Christensen, Reg. 18; Cory Brooks, Reg. 18; Greg Jennewein, Reg. 18; Kyle Bianchi, Reg. 9; Joy Christensen, Reg. 18; D.J. Triplett, Reg. 18; Amy Huhn, Reg. 18; Clayton Corn, Reg. 18; Chloe Sanders, Reg. 22; Shelby James, Reg. 22; Carrie Walker, Reg. 7; Grace Christensen, Reg. 18; Sarah Rooks, Reg. 7; and Jennifer Schmidt, Reg. 18.

Judges for the contest were Nyla Hughes, Marquette Classroom Iris Project students, and Rick Ernst of Cooley's Gardens. Cash prizes were awarded and participants' names will be placed on a list for free iris rhizomes next summer. The artistic talent displayed by the youths was outstanding. Congratulations to all and thanks to everyone who entered. 

International News

By George & Margaret Sutton, California, and Bruce Filardi, Oregon

From Michele Bersillon, France:

The French Iris Society is pleased to announce an International Iris Competition to be held in May of 2005 at Jouy en Josas, near Paris. Foreign hybridizers are welcome to enter; rhizomes should be submitted in 2002. This competition is open only to Tall Bearded irises.

Please note that at present this is a one-time special event, not planned to be an annual competition. Irises will be judged by an international jury who will observe them in a third-year planting. For details, interested hybridizers are asked to contact: Christophe Hauss; Franciris 2005; 28 avenue de la Houn; 40000 Mont-de-Marson; France. Or by email at <mhc.hauss@infonie.fr>.

BIS Awards, 2001:

The Pilkington Award is for outstanding personal services to the Society. For 2001 it has been awarded to Mr G H Preston, a leading influence within the Society for most of the second half of the twentieth century...George...was elected to the Executive Committee of the Society in 1954 and served on it continuously until it was reconstituted in 1998...from his earliest days the genus Iris...engaged his active interest. Perhaps the most spectacular demonstration of this was the magnificent iris garden he established at Kew...In 1966 he was awarded the Foster Memorial Plaque...

The Dykes Medal 2001: DARLEY DALE (B. L. C. Dodsworth '98). This is a fine ruffled white self with yellow beards... it is a good garden plant and will also produce exhibition spikes.

Souvenir de M. Lemon Trophy 2001: This year the...trophy has been awarded to an Intermediate Bearded Iris, ALISON TAYLOR (J. D. Taylor '98)... It is an 18" very bright brown on yellow plicata...

BIS Silver Gilt Medal: Every once in a while someone emerges in the world of irises for whom the general run of the British Iris Society's awards and medals are not apposite. Such a person is Margaret Cameron Longo... Having been elected to the Florentine Iris Society... in 1965 she assisted in the early stages of the development of the Iris Garden in Florence. Part of her duties at this early time was to

coordinate the invitation of international judges for the annual competition "the Concorso Internazionale d'ell Iris"... In 1971 she founded the internal jury of Italian judges who judged the early and late varieties of irises... There can be little doubt that the smooth running of the Concorso is due in no small measure to her unstinting efforts.

The Reginald Cory Memorial Cup 2000: This cup is given annually by the Royal Horticultural Society to encourage the production of new hardy hybrids of garden origin. From 1997 it has been awarded to a raiser whose hybridisation work in a particular genus has resulted in the recent introduction and availability of new hardy hybrids of merit. Last year, Mr. C.E.C. (Cy) Bartlett was given this award which was presented at the Annual General Meeting of the RHS in June 2001... Among his many awards have been Dykes Medals for ORINOCO FLOW (BB) and in 2000 for PERFECT VISION (Sibirica). In the Florence International Iris Trials he has won awards for Best Border Bearded, Best Red, Best Scented and Best Late cultivars. Among his British Iris Society awards have been the Miller Trophy for a sibirica, the Lemon Trophy for shorter bearded (several times) and the Fothergill Trophy for the TB LARK RISE...

RHS Associate of Honour 2000: The Royal Horticultural Society established this award in 1930 to honour persons of British nationality who have rendered distinguished service to horticulture in the course of their employment. There are only 100 people who can hold this award at any one time. In 2000 Tony Hall was made an Associate of Honour as a result of his work at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, where he is responsible for the Alpine Unit, Woodland Garden, alpine and bulbs under protection, and the propagation of material for other areas within the Herbaceous Section. He has made a special study of the genus *Iris*; coordinates research into the genus at the Jodrell Laboratory at Kew and is closely involved with the taxonomy and cultivation of *Juno* irises... Tony received a number of awards during his career; among them the Sir Michael Foster Memorial Plaque from the BIS in 1998.

Bob Nichol Trophy: This award is given annually for outstanding service to the BIS for the year. The trophy has been awarded this year to Mrs. Margaret Criddle in recognition of her outstanding success with the BIS Seed Exchange, which she has managed since 1993...

Russian Popularity Poll Results, 2001:

Following are the results of the 2001 popularity symposium in Russia. BEFORE THE STORM won first place, with 20 votes; 2nd: COPATONIC and MESMERIZER (19 votes); 4th: SUPREME SULTAN (18); 5th: BEVERLY SILLS (17); 6th: CELEBRATION SONG and HONKY TONK BLUES (16); 8th: CONJURATION (14); 9th: ENGLISH CHARM (13); 10th: EDITH WOLFORD (12).

Note from the Editors: The International News editors were saddened to learn of the death in 2001 of the outstanding hybridizer Adolf Volfovich-Moler of Uzbekistan. Despite isolation from other hybridizers, Mr. Volfovich-Moler bred many fine irises which performed well in international competitions throughout the world, most notably at the Florence Competition. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family. ❧



Darley Dale (Bryan Dodsworth, 1998) British Dykes Medal Winner 2001

New Director Bios

Maureen Mark

Greetings to all. I garden in Ottawa, Ontario, with my spouse (Sandy Ives, RVP Region 16) and two children. Both my children are youth members of the AIS. Emily attended her first convention last year and was privileged to be Clarence Mahan's bus buddy. Roger is now 7 and no longer digs up our rhizomes shortly after they've been planted.



We each fight for garden space on our 50' by 100' lot in the center of the city. And as Sandy says, the problem is that we have a 3-bedroom bungalow in the middle of the lot. We grow a few hundred irises in this small space, so the garden is always being dug and non-performers are quickly ousted. About half of the irises are medians. The other half are mostly TBs, with a few dozen Siberians, a handful of spurias and Louisianas and a few species. While Sandy is the active hybridizer, I am known to do one or two crosses a year. Emily has tried a few crosses too. Currently, seedlings are being grown on the in-laws' property – 5 hours away. We'll need to do something about that soon!

After growing and promoting irises for about 15 years in Ottawa, we are finally ready to launch the first Canadian affiliate of the AIS – the Ottawa River Iris society, which will draw members from eastern Ontario and western Quebec. I am a life member of the AIS, the Canadian Iris Society and the Siberian Iris Society. I am a member of almost all sections of the AIS.

The parts of the garden inimical to irises are filled with hostas, daylilies, heuchera, pulmonaria and other interesting shade-loving plants. And of course, I have to 'garden' indoors too. I propagate African violets for the local club's Spring sale, so that I can try different varieties. And then there are the other gesneriads, pelargoniums, orchids, etc. Needless to say, I am active in a great number of plant societies.

To fund my plant addictions, I work as a policy advisor for the federal government. I am currently working on rail transportation issues.

Carryl Meyer

Carryl was born and raised in California, from central to north to south, and finally her family settled in a little town in the Sierra Foothills named Paradise. After moving so many times, she finally was able to plant 'her garden' and the first flowers planted were some of her grandmother's 'smelly purple iris'! During her high school years, she grew iris and other flowers and sold them - adding to her college fund. She



graduated from California State University, Chico, with a degree in Medical Sciences; while there she met and married her husband, Hubert (Honk), also a graduate of CSU with a degree in Natural Science. Wherever they lived, she continued her profession as a Clinical Laboratory Technologist, later going into the field of hospital administration.

For many years they lived in Sacramento where they started growing other 'family iris', then began expanding their collection to include many newer varieties - all tall bearded. Honk was with the U.S. Forest Service, and accepted a transfer to Missoula, Montana, where they have lived for over 30 years now. Fairly soon after moving to Montana, Carryl discovered that there are other iris than Tall Bearded, and in the more severe climate of western Montana, Carryl started growing Medians, Siberians, Spurias and species from seed. She has dabbled with hybridizing MTB's, SDB's, MDB's and Siberians, receiving several Exhibition Certificates for her efforts, but not yet introducing any of her seedlings. Now specializing in Medians, which seem to grow better in the colder Montana climate, she is hoping that someday she will hybridize a Median which will rebloom in Zone 3. She currently belongs to nine sections of AIS, is a Director of the Dwarf Iris Society, Treasurer of HIPS, and both she and Honk are Life Members of AIS.

For the past 4 years, her husband Honk was the head gardener for the Missoula Iris Society Garden, and through their efforts, the garden

is now a display garden for MDB's, Medians, Tall Bearded, Siberians and Historic Iris - both 'early' and 'late'. She also enjoys visiting gardens in other areas to see how both older and newer irises cope with the different soil and weather conditions.

Carryl's other garden interests include tulips, lilies, begonias, and dahlias, as well as annual flowers and vegetables grown from their own seeds. She is a Senior Accredited Dahlia Judge, Master flower arranger, Superintendent of Floriculture for the Western Montana Fair, and in her spare time enjoys cooking, crafting, creative sewing, quilting, and spending time with her granddaughters.

Carryl is an active member of the Missoula Iris Society, in which she has held several offices, including that of President; she has served as Region 11 RVP for several terms, and has held all offices open to the RVP. While serving as the RVP representative on the AIS Board of Directors, she decided that she would like to be a Director on the AIS Board and continue as an active participant in AIS affairs.

Nancy Pocklington

I doubt that much is needed in the way of introduction for me, since Irv and I have handled the Storefront since the summer of 1997, until this past winter when health problems forced me to give it up. Also, I have been on the Board of Directors for two years, appointed to fill an unexpired term.

A native of Central Illinois, I grew up on an all-purpose farm, the fifth daughter of a man who needed sons to buck bales. Dad raised beef cattle, hogs, sheep, corn, beans, and lots of alfalfa. I did some field work on Allis Chambers tractors and drove a war-surplus jeep from field to field to keep all the tractors gassed up. My favorite pets were the huge Percheron workhorses that had been retired to pasture after the transition to tractors.

My parents placed a very high priority on education, both academic and in music. I attended a one-room country school, Carlinville High School, and later earned an M.A. from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Choral music was my chief extra-curricular activity throughout all these years, culminating in a concert tour of England in 1995 with the choir of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Springfield, IL.



I began growing irises in the late 1970's, and began in the 1980's to attend meetings of the Mid-Illinois Iris Society. My retirement from 31 years of teaching secondary English and math came in 1989, freeing me to become more active in AIS affairs. On the Regional level, I served as Region 9 Treasurer and ARVP. Irv's retirement from Pocklington Seed Company in 1997 cleared the way for us to assume the duties of Sales Directors for the AIS. We both very much enjoyed serving the AIS in this office, and we will cherish the many friendships it brought with AIS members all over the world.

[A personal note: As I write this in February, the doctors tell me that my lungs are healing, and I have been released from daytime use of oxygen, though I still sleep with it. Walking strength is still not good, but I'm working on that. Thanks for your many cards and letters.]

Gerald C. Snyder

Gerry was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and grew up in its northern suburb of Mount Healthy. One prominent feature of the home where he spent most of his formative years was the thirty-foot grape arbor with irises planted down the middle on both sides of the sidewalk. Iris were imprinted on his mind at an early age.

After college and a few years working in Colorado, Gerry settled in the Los Angeles area, where he bought a home in 1977. Soon he bought some iris rhizomes, which performed well enough to keep up interest, but not well enough, or in wide enough variety, to cause an infection of the iris virus. That happened at the spring show of the San Fernando Valley Iris Society in 1989. He got hooked. But good!

Gerry joined the local immediately and soon started taking part in its activities. Deeper involvement at various levels soon followed. Not long after he started going to spring nationals, he noticed that there was not a scheduled meeting for officers of the affiliates to discuss their common problems and uncommon solutions. Such a meeting was soon set up and has since been a part of the AIS spring meetings.

Closer to home, on one spring afternoon during this period, in the iris area of Descanso Gardens in La Cañada Flintridge, CA, he overheard a discussion between two AIS judges of the iris growing there. He was envious of their knowledge and judgement. That day he decided he wanted to be a judge.



His interest in computers led him to become chair of the annual tall bearded Symposium

His only regret is that his lot is not large enough to grow as many iris as he would like.


Peter Weixlmann

A recent life member of AIS, I have just completed my three-year term as Region 2 RVP. The pride of my tenure: Completion of the difficult task of reorganization of Region 2 from a single AIS Affiliate to a multi-affiliate Region with AIS 501 (c) (3) status. I am truly grateful for the participation and hard work of my fellow Region 2 officers and members for this accomplishment. Prior to becoming RVP I was Assistant RVP and served on the Empire State Iris Society Board of Directors for many years.

While Chairman of the Western New York Iris Society for four and a half years, our membership and community outreach programs flourished. We have held either a Median or Japanese iris show or exhibits and a complete AIS accredited show annually. I have spoken to numerous garden clubs and at many nurseries, participated in large garden shows and talked to hundreds of attendees.

My international iris achievements stem from working with the Canadian Iris Society as a planning committee member and auctioneer, resulting in the very first Japanese Iris Symposium at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Ontario, and the upcoming 2003 Siberian Convention in Hamilton. I have been the American receiver of guest Siberian iris and have made their transport into Canada an easy process for the hybridizers.

I was elected at the AIS 2000 convention and served as Chairman of the 2001 RVP Meeting in Baltimore. I am currently working on the gathering and consolidation of the E-mail robin postings for the bulletin. Also on the national level, I am the Secretary of the Society for Japanese Iris and have been the auctioneer for the Annual Geek dinner during the AIS conventions.

All this from attending one harmless iris meeting! 

Medal Winners

Hybridizer's Medal Marvin Granger

It would take a book-length article to write about and describe all the things and people that influenced hybridizing of the Louisiana Iris. It all began after World War II, around 1946 or a little later, when I got into the field of serious hybridizing. My sister and I had been collecting the blue GC's (Giganticaerulea) whose main habitat was in the marshes of Cameron Parish, a short drive south of Lake Charles, Louisiana.



About the same time we heard of the "Abbeville Reds" (now named *I. nelsonii*), just south of Abbeville, LA. After inquiries were made to find just where these larger forms of *Iris fulva* were located, we made a trip to Abbeville and found the irises growing in a pasture and adjoining swamp. Those in the swamp were in about one foot of water and were really looking great. We gathered about one and a half grass sacks full of plants before returning home. What I didn't know at the time was that these irises, the blue GC's and the Abbeville Reds, were the two main ingredients that the hybridizers of Louisiana irises were using at that time.

Hybrids from other hybridizers were later brought into the program to try for new colors, forms and size of blossoms.

On one of our collecting trips to Cameron Parish in 1954, 1955, and 1956, to try to find something new and different, or maybe find an elusive white (a sport of the blue GC), I found a blue double growing thru a huge clump of GC's. At the time I didn't realize the importance of this discovery but decided this would be my direction – to hybridize for other doubles in colors other than blue. Twelve years later a yellow double showed up. I named it CREOLE CANARY. To achieve this, a lot of outcrosses had been made: Crosses with good hybrids of different colors, forms and substance, then seedlings from these crosses had to bloom before the "backcrossing" started.

Time and patience are needed in hybridizing Louisiana Irises, or maybe in any hybridizing program. But if you love what you are doing and have a goal in mind time is not important.

AIS Warburton Medal Recipient: Brian Mathew

by Bruce Filardi

Brian Mathew wrote to tell us that he "delighted with this award!"

Brian is a Botanist/Plant Taxonomist who has spent most of his career at the world-renowned Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, England. He is a specialist in the plant families *Iridaceae*, *Amaryllidaceae*, and *Liliaceae*. At present he is an Honorary Research Fellow at the Royal Botanic Gardens, and is Editor of *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* and Series Editor of the Kew Botanical *Monographs*.

Brain has received numerous awards for his botanical work. Just a few of these honors are the VMH (Victoria Medal of Honor) in Horticulture, presented by the Royal Horticultural Society; the Carlton Worth Award from the North American Rock Garden Society; the Sir Michael Foster Award, presented by the British Iris Society; and the Lyttel Cup from the Royal Horticultural Society.

His fieldwork includes many botanical expeditions and study/lecture tours to Turkey, the Balkans (Greece and sections of former Yugoslavia), Iran, Kenya, Uzbekistan, Japan, and the United States. He has authored more than 70 books and articles, including *The Iris* (Batsford, 1981), *Flora Iranica – Iridaceae* (1975), *Flora of Iraq, Vol. 8: Iridaceae* (1985), *Taxonomic Revision of Iris subg. Hermodactyloides* (1989), *Iris series Spuriae* (1991), *Iris tenax* (1991), and *Flora of China, English Edition* (co-author, 1991). He is presently at work on *Monograph of Iris subgen. Hermodactyloides* and *Monograph of Iris sect. Oncocyclus* for the RBG Kew.

Hybridizer's Medal: Hooker T. Nichols

by Bonnie J. Nichols

People who grow bearded irises have long been acquainted with cultivars produced by Hooker T. Nichols. Growing up in the 1950's in the town of Woodward, Oklahoma, on a farm located in the southwest portion of the small city, Hooker learned about selective breeding of animals and plants from the Clark family.

Early years were spent in the huge iris garden maintained by Hooker's late aunt, Theda M. Clark. Growing in this garden could be

found all the types of bearded irises and a few spurias. Theda Clark showed Hooker how to hybridize irises in 1958 and limited him to one bunch of crossing tags that year. Little did the Clark family know that they should have purchased stock in the Avery price tag company!

The Northwest Oklahoma Iris Society had at that time several members who grew the latest bearded irises. Anna Glitsch and Arnold Woodall allowed Hooker to hybridize in their gardens too, and they even bought the crossing tags so he wouldn't be limited to 100 crosses per year.

When the Clark family built a new home and the old farmhouse was demolished, the new seedling bed was the site of the former house. It was an amazing sight to see such a little boy maintaining a huge personal iris garden of his own. The virgin soil really could grow beautiful irises.

Theda Clark told her nephew that it was very important to use only the very best irises in hybridizing because new and exciting things were coming on the market each year. She stressed branching, bud count, and vigor. Very few irises could be found in the Clark garden that had not received at least an HM award.

The early 1960's found several Standard Dwarf Bearded irises being purchased by Hooker and his Aunt Theda. Hooker mowed several lawns and did a lot of yard work, and Theda Clark selected the new irises to be purchased. By the mid-1960's Hooker's SDB breeding program was well under way and some beautiful seedlings were beginning to show up. Iris Smith, a close family friend and a mentor to many well-known iris hybridizers, made annual visits to the Clark garden each spring and gave encouragement to Hooker.

Hooker was encouraged to produce irises which would be wonderful garden cultivars as well as fine exhibition irises. Due to the early death of Hooker's chief mentor, his Aunt Theda Clark, several other people decided that they would keep Hooker's iris interest moving forward on all fronts. Melba Hamblen constantly encouraged Hooker to keep hybridizing and gave him much advice about keeping good records and garden notes about seedlings.

The spring bloom season of 1968 was quite exciting in the SDB seedling patch. A ruffled yellow with a red-brown halo simply stopped the visitors in their tracks when it had seven flowers open one morning. This cultivar was registered as AMAZON PRINCESS and released in 1973 by Sierra Vista Iris Gardens and Top O' the Ridge Gardens. 1978

saw this cultivar winning the Cook-Douglas Medal after leading the voting each year in its class. Certainly this was a fine honor for a hybridizer's first introduction.

Throughout the next thirty years Hooker continued to expand his hybridizing interests, and thousands of seedlings have been produced and evaluated. Space age irises have always been grown in the Nichols garden and working with this group of irises in the Intermediate Bearded class resulted in the introduction of HAGAR'S HELMET in 1977. This horned yellow iris became the first Space Ager to win an Award of Merit in 1981.


Having a keen eye for knowing which irises will produce good hybridizing results has yielded nearly twenty Award of Merit winners. These winners came in the Tall Bearded, Border Bearded, Intermediate Bearded, Standard Dwarf Bearded, and Arilbred classes.

William Mohr Medal awards for arilbreds were won in 1981 by BYZANTINE BEAUTY, 1984 by CAIRO LOVE SONG, and 1996 by SOLOMON'S GLORY. OKLAHOMA BANDIT won the Sass Medal for Intermediate Bearded Irises in 1988. LENORA PEARL, a reblooming Border Bearded, won the Knowlton Medal in 1996.

BOOGIE WOOGIE, introduced in 1993, won the Walther Cup in 1996 and the Wister Medal in 1999. Hooker Nichols has produced three President's Cup winners with LATIN HIDEAWAY in 1988, LENORA PEARL in 1993, and VEGAS WEEKEND in 2000. Hooker's intros have received almost 100 Honorable Mention awards to date.

Hooker's current hybridizing endeavors have expanded into the Spuria and Louisiana areas; hundreds are currently growing in the Nichols' seedlings beds and should be blooming in 2004.

Throughout the years, Hooker has sent hundreds of iris seeds to New Zealand and to Australia. Besides iris, a keen interest in hybridizing hemerocallis has also emerged in the Nichols' seedling beds. Many new hemerocallis cultivars are slated for future introduction.

Each spring, Hooker and Bonnie can be found hybridizing many flowers in their two-acre iris garden in Balch Springs. They each have their own hybridizing agenda. Now that Hooker is a naturalized Texan, we in the Lone Star State can certainly say that this honor is shared by all people who love the iris. 

High Commendation Awards for 2001

Type	Seedling	Hybridizer	Region	Votes
TB	95-3652	Joe Ghio	14	7
TB	90-13-4	Larry Harder (deceased)	21	7
TB	5132-1	Sterling Innerst	3	5
TB	4371-4	Sterling Innerst	3	7
TB	MJ 99-4	Wilford James	6	8
TB	MJ 99-11	Wilford James	6	8
TB	93-0038-MA	Anton Mego (by Russ Eacker)	Slovakia	7
TB	4097A	Lynda Miller	6	5
TB	FF178-1	Schreiners	13	5
TB	OBSIDIAN (95-37B)	Marky D. Smith	13	5
TB	W 01-110	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	9
TB	W 01-131	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	9
BB	98-189BB	Merle Roberts	13	8
IB	95-28B	Marky D. Smith	13	6
MTB	C39-7	Charles Bunnell	6	5
MTB	98-2	James Loveland	18	5
MTB	96-3A	Stephanie Markham	1	12
MTB	96-5A	Stephanie Markham	1	5
MTB	97-9RA	Stephanie Markham	1	5
MTB	91MT17	Robert Sobek	1	5
SDB	96-15A	Marky D. Smith	13	6
SDB	CHERRY CURLS	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	9
SDB	W 93-18	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	9
SDB	W 2K-80	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	8
MDB	BUBS1	William & Ada Godfrey	1	9
MDB	93-26B	Marky D. Smith	13	6
MDB	RCSMDB95-2	Richard Sparling	1	5
MDB	FROSTY MITE	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	8

MDB	W 2K-42	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	10
MDB	W 01-11	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	9
AB	W 01-12	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	6
AB	W 01-109	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	9
AB	W 2K-59	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	9
SPEC-X	9395-64A	Lynn Markham	1	8
SPEC-X	RC-aph-B1	Harold Mathes	Germany	6
SIB	S92-75-11	Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks	1	7
SIB	12	Carol Warner	4	10
SIB	13	Carol Warner	4	6
SIB	W 97-12	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	7
SIB	W 98-18	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	8

Hybridizer's Medal Recipients

compiled by Keith McNames, AIS Librarian

1981: none awarded

1982: Nora Scopes

1983: Henry Danielson

1984: Dorothy Palmer

1985: Walt Luihn and Joseph Mertzweiller

1986: Doris Foster and O. David Niswonger

1987: Lois "Jonnye" Rich

1988: none awarded

1989: Eleanor McCown

1990: none awarded

1991: George A. Shoop

1992: Bernard Hamner and Lloyd Zurbrigg

1993: Mary Louise Dunderman and Mary Dunn

1994: Allen Ensminger

1995: none awarded

1996: Fredrick W. Gadd, D. C. Nearpass, D. Steve Varner, and
C.E.C. Bartlett (Britain)

1997: Terry Aitken, Barry Blyth (Australia), and Carl Boswell

1998: Dr. Robert Hollingworth and Sterling Innerst

1999: Ray Schreiner

2000: Dorothy Guild, Tomas Tamberg (Germany), and Anthony
& Dorothy Willott

2001: Howard Shockey, John Taylor (Australia), and Jean Cayeux (France)

To Vote or Not to Vote?

(for a particular iris on the Ballot)

by S. Roy Epperson, AIS Awards Chair

THE BYLAWS OF THE AIS (ARTICLE VI, SECTION 7) STATE "The AIS Board of Directors shall, in furtherance of the purposes of the AIS, have the authority to create and appoint committees and delegate to such committees powers and functions as seem proper..." The Board of Directors established The Awards Committee which "...is delegated the authority to coordinate, conduct, compile and report the results of the national competitions for garden awards, including the Official Ballot awards, the Convention awards and honors, and the Symposium." (*Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*, Sixth Edition, 1998, p. 22).

"Each year the accredited judges of The American Iris Society, by written Official Ballot, cast their votes for the garden awards of the Society, and from this balloting the Society's official garden awards are decided. The emphasis is repeatedly placed on the word **GARDEN** because this system of awards is based entirely on performance in the garden; all evaluations must be made of irises seen growing and in bloom in gardens, over a period of time, in different locations and under varying climatic conditions." (*Handbook*, p. 22).

As Awards Chair, I have just completed the preparation of the 2002 Official Ballot. On that Ballot there are several hundred cultivars eligible for consideration for the awards of the AIS. Voting the ballot is not an easy task. As stated above, the voting judge should not vote for a cultivar unless s/he has seen that cultivar growing and blooming in the garden (**not just on the Exhibition bench or just in a catalog or just in a slide presentation!**) over a period of time, in different locations and under varying climatic conditions. Would that that were true! Each judge should have evaluated each cultivar by the class requirements set forth in the *Handbook*. It is the expectation of the Judges' Training program of the AIS that each and every accredited judge possess and utilize the latest edition of the *Handbook*.

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Vol. 1

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Cape Iris Gardens – Cape Girardeau, Missouri

What are the award categories listed on the Official Ballot? Accredited judges already know all of these, so the following is information primarily for the iris enthusiast who is not a judge. The first category is **Honorable Mention (HM)**. TB, BB, IB, MTB, SDB, MDB, AR & AB are placed on the Ballot the second year after introduction. All other classes are placed on the Ballot the third year after introduction. All cultivars remain on the HM eligibility list for three years. This is a difficult category for voting because there are hundreds of irises introduced each year and each judge can vote for up to 10% of those eligible in each class. Some judges will argue that there are too many cultivars listed in the HM classes, especially TB. That may well be a valid argument. However, each and every hybridizer should be given the opportunity to have his/her introductions evaluated and voted on.

The next award category is **Award of Merit (AM)**. Irises that have won an HM are placed on this eligibility list the second year after having won the HM, and remain on the AM eligibility list for three years. Each judge may vote for up to 10% of the eligible cultivars.

Irises that have won an AM are placed on the **Special Medal** eligibility list the second year after winning the AM and remain on that eligibility list for three years. At the present time there are fifteen (15) Special Medals. Each judge may vote for only one cultivar for a Special Medal (3 for the Wister Medal for TBs).

Special Medal winners are placed on the **Dykes Medal (DM)** eligibility list the next year and remain on the DM eligibility list for three years. A judge may vote for only one iris for the DM. The American Dykes Medal is the highest honor that an iris may receive. The first American Dykes Medal was awarded to SAN FRANCISCO in 1927.

Each accredited judge is expected to vote a timely ballot each year (postmarked by July 1). Failure to do so for two consecutive years is automatic cause for removal from the list of AIS accredited judges. When you sit down to vote the ballot, ask yourself the following questions: (1) Have I grown this cultivar or seen it growing in other gardens over several seasons and in more than one garden? (2) Have I counted the number of buds and bloomstalks over several seasons? (3) Are there sufficient buds and bloomstalks to meet the floriferousness criteria? (4) Does the cultivar meet the class criteria as registered (i.e., does it stay "in class")? A judge should be able to say YES to each of these questions in order to place an (X) for that cultivar on the ballot! 

A New Interspecies Hybrid

by Bruce Hornstein, Maryland

SOME YEARS AGO, THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE Society for Japanese Iris held a New England Clambake at Dr. Currier McEwen's home in Harpswell, Maine. Participants enjoyed lobster, clams, and all the trimmings, followed by an auction. There was talk that Mr. Kamo, the largest grower of Japanese Iris in Japan, had brought to the auction two extraordinary fertile interspecies seedlings that would change the future coloring of JI's. There was a great deal of excitement about a photograph of one of the cultivars, SAYO-NO-TSUKI, an ensata-pseudacorus cross, showing a purple and yellow flower.

Five attendees from Region 4, Dr. William Ackerman, Rosalie Figge, Clarence Mahan, Carol Warner and I, decided that these new imports should be bid for and grown by our own local hybridizers. We guessed that the bids would be high, possibly as much as \$500.00 per plant. We agreed to put up \$200.00 each and asked Dr. Ackerman to bid on our behalf.

Dr. Ackerman's bid for \$400.00 for SAYO-NO-TSUKI was accepted, but a nursery in Massachusetts paid a whopping \$600.00 for the other cultivar, HATSUHO.

Years passed and various members of our Region 4 group attempted to obtain seedlings from this plant, with little success. Meanwhile, Dr Ackerman had acquired HATSUHO and had hybridized it with SAYO-NO-TSUKI. He had grown a viable seedling which, unfortunately, refused to bloom. Dr. Ackerman suggested that perhaps I would like to try it in my garden.

I received the potted seedling in the summer of 1999 and grew it in a pool with about two inches of water; it thrived but didn't bloom. I divided it at the end of the season into two pots and wintered it over in a greenhouse. In the spring, the two pots were relegated to a shallow



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Jacqueline (Plotner'98) TB



pool of water and showed a fair amount of increase.

A new bed had been opened where irises had never grown, and the decision was made to plant both plants of the seedling there. Experience with SAYO-NO-TSUKI (the pod parent) had indicated that these plants are heavy feeders and require good irrigation. We followed a regimen of applying Mir-Acid every three weeks, and the soil was saturated with water twice weekly.

In June of 2001, both plants flowered for a total of 10 stalks, and Dr. Ackerman visited to see another of his many successes.

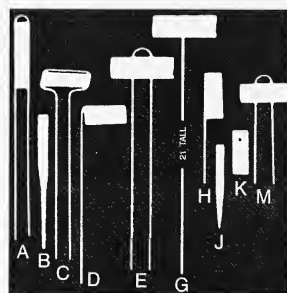
[Editor's Note: We in the iris industry know Dr. William Ackerman as a hybridizer of fine Japanese iris. However, he is also well-known as the developer of the cold-hardy camellia and recipient of the prestigious Luther Burbank Award.] 

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The Santa Rosa Iris Society

Display and Experimental Garden

by *Dean Linscott*

A

ALMOST A YEAR AGO I PUT IN A TEST GARDEN FOR THE SANTA ROSA Iris Society, and the results so far have been sufficiently interesting that I have been urged to share them with others interested in iris culture. The land available was an overgrown weed patch in heavy clay soil, near a busy street and sidewalk adjacent to our meeting-place. I laid out eight 40 ft. rows, 3 ft. apart. (If I were doing it over, I'd make them 4 or 5 ft. apart so as to have more room to walk between rows.) We then tilled the ground for the planting rows, leaving the walkways in between firm. Each tilled row was approximately 20" wide, 6-8" deep and 40 ft. long, which gives an area of about 70 square ft. and a volume of about 40 cubic ft. We then took several soil samples and pooled them for analysis. This showed a pH of 6.2, a pronounced deficiency of nitrogen and calcium, and normal or high values for the remaining major elements (see "Garden Soil" in Table).

The decision was made to add 6 lb. of oystershell lime to each row, to supply calcium and to raise pH. Seven of the eight rows then received ½ yard of Sonoma Compost, and the remaining row received ½ yard of Wheeler Mix. (See Table for content and analyses of these materials.) Five of the planting rows were then given identical amounts of nitrogen (38-0-0), superphosphate (0-25-0), and sulfate of potash (0-0-50), as indicated in the Table. Row 1 was designated the "basic" row; row 2 was the same except that it also received 25 lb. of molasses-free alfalfa meal; row 3 was "basic" plus 5 lb. of kelp meal; row 4 was "basic" plus liquid Maxicrop (a seaweed extract) applied monthly except in winter; and row 5 was "basic" plus alfalfa meal plus kelp meal plus Maxicrop. Row 6 received only lime plus compost; row 7 received lime plus compost plus 15-15-15; and row 8 received lime plus Wheeler Mix. All amounts are given in the Table. These amendments were then thoroughly tilled in to a depth of 6-8 inches.



Iris rudskia, found in southern Poland

MEIS Convention (page 94)

Photo: Cadd



From left to right: Juri Dudek, Josef Dudek, Zdenek Seidl, David Cadd, Oleg Amekhin, Anna Cadd, Jerzy Wozniak



New Interspecies Hybrid (W. Ackerman)

see story page 35

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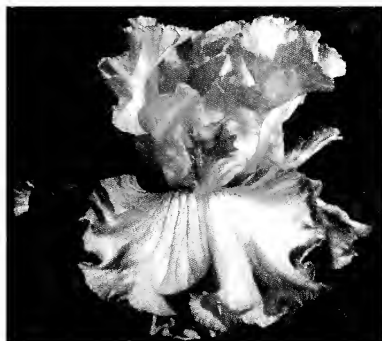
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A dual automatic watering system was installed, so that we can switch from soaker hose (used most of the time) to an overhead sprinkler (used after top-dressing in the summer). The tilled soil was mounded into planting rows for good drainage, and the soaker laid down the top of each row and slightly buried. Then the entire area was covered with a *completely opaque* weed-cloth, sewed into 6 ft. wide by 50 ft. long strips. We chose "Gardener 5 year Weed Shield", a black plastic containing tiny pin-holes which let in air and water, but not enough light for weeds, and cut holes every 2 ft. down each row for planting the rhizomes. The perimeter of the garden was secured by wrapping the weed-cloth around 1 x 2" wood strips, and pegging them down with wire "staples." We laid down mulch between the rows, to walk on, to hide the edges of the weed-cloth, and to take some of the wear off the weed-cloth. The only weed that grows under it is wild morning glory, and when it pokes through an iris opening it is easy to break off and remove. I can weed the entire garden in a few minutes. The weed-cloth seems to conserve water, too – currently the soaker hose is only "on" for 1-2 minutes every other day, depending on the weather. Some members have expressed concern about the amount of heat that may be attracted by the black plastic, but of course this would be a "plus" in the early spring. So far we have seen no signs of heat damage to the rhizomes.

So much for the preparation – now for the irises. Different iris cultivars differ extremely with respect to their vigor and many other characteristics. In order to get a meaningful comparison of the effects of our various soil amendments on iris growth, etc., we felt that we had to have the *same irises* in each row. Yet we were also trying to present to the public a pretty iris display, so we compromised: of the twenty irises in each 40 ft. row, nine are "indicator irises," which are identical in every row. The rest of the irises in the garden were chosen for beauty and good growth, and are one of a kind. On the basis of little more than ready availability, we selected the following cultivars as "indicators": Classic Look, Honky Tonk Blues, Jesse's Song, Lake Mead, Mary Frances, Mesmerizer, Panama Hattie, Tennison Ridge, and Yaquina Blue. This list includes both strong and weaker growers, early and late bloomers, and some rebloomers. Club members turned out to plant the rhizomes in August of 2000. The bed was top-dressed with about 7 lb. of 5-10-10 in February, and with a similar amount of 15-15-15 in May, sprinkled around each iris underneath the weed-cloth. In January of 2001, six months after the amendments were first tilled in, soil from each row was sampled at several points, and eight analyses were done,

one for each row (see Table). The irises were sprayed twice (with Rally) for leaf-spot, and we bait regularly for snails. Growth in general is quite robust, and the weed-free garden is quite attractive even when not in bloom.

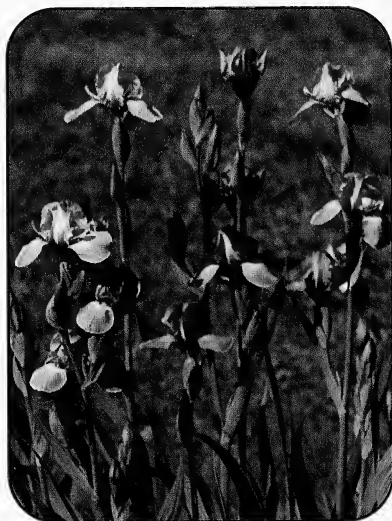
So what were we going to look for? One thing we could measure objectively would be increases, so every four weeks I count the total number of increases among the nine indicator irises in each row. From the very beginning, the row with Wheeler Mix showed the largest number of increases, and this pattern continued to hold (see the Figure). It will be interesting to see if this continues as the second round of increases begins this summer. Other things that could be counted objectively were the number of bloom stalks and the number of blossoms produced by each indicator iris. In order to be able to count the number of blooms, and yet to maintain a pleasing garden during bloom season, we were careful when deadheading to cut away only the spent flowers, leaving the ovaries. When bloom was nearly finished, I cut each stalk and carefully went over it to tally the number of ovaries, and thus the number of blooms, for that plant. The total number of blooms for all the indicators in each row are presented in the Table.

We were able to draw a number of useful conclusions at this point in our experiment. We were very pleased with the weed suppression obtained, but beware of translucent, not opaque, weed-cloths – they won't work unless covered with opaque mulch (a lesson we learned the hard way). Wheeler Mix clearly best supported the development of increases, and also the number of blooms, although kelp meal was a close second for bloom development. We had expected that if alfalfa meal or kelp meal or Maxicrop had a positive effect on iris growth, then perhaps a combination of all three of these would be better still, hence the treatment of row 5. Yet the outcome was quite the opposite!

When we look at the soil analysis data for clues to help us understand the results so far, it seems likely that the production of increases is relatively unrelated to nitrogen levels, since approximately the same number of increases was found in each of the rows 3 through 7, while nitrogen values in these rows ranged from 7 to 30. Perhaps the lower pH (6.7 vs 7.1 to 7.4) accounts for row 8 having the largest number of increases, but further work is needed to sort this out. It does seem likely that there may be some connection between nitrogen levels and the number of bloom stalks and blooms, but it can't be too simple, because of the large difference between row 1 (with plenty of nitrogen)

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/INTERBERRY GARDENS 2002 INTRODUCTIONS



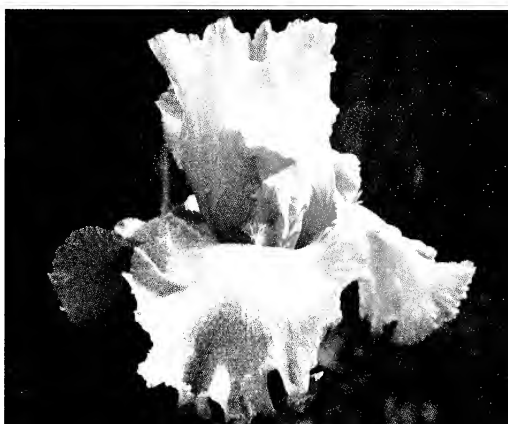
Astounded IB



Maslon MTB



Hot Chic SDB, RE



Pink Moon TB



Red Rabbit SDB



Miss Meredith SDB

WINTERBERRY GARDENS 2002 INTRODUCTIONS

By DON SPOON

Aunt Margaret TB, 32" (81 cm), EM & RE (Oct. in zone 6b). Deep bluish purple self and beards, fully flared with wide, gently ruffled falls. Clean hafts and velvety texture. Borer free here. Best winter hardiness of all our rebloomers with stalks and flowers that continue bloom development after overnight temperatures down to 26 degrees F. Seven buds per stalk. Nice floral fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Holy Night X Purple Magic). \$45.

Evergreen TB, 35" (89 cm), ML. Medium purple self with yellow tipped beards. Purple based foliage. Unique among our 7,000+ varieties of irises possessing winter hardiness to exposure to freezing down to 5 degrees F keeping its growing foliage all winter. Blades stay grass green and turgid and grow in the snow. Fertile pod parent passing antifreeze trait to offspring. Honky Tonk Blues X Silverado (Sibling of Uncle Charlie). \$40.

Lycopene TB, 34" (86 cm), M. Ruffled, wide, and flared peachy pink of the deepest intensity we have encountered. Lighter area around the poppy red beards (color of the pigment lycopene). 7 to 9 buds per stalk. Fertile both ways. (Pink Pink sibling X Lady Friend). \$40.

Pink Moon TB, 33" (84 cm), ML. Uniform, smooth baby ribbon pink self with darker rare baby ribbon pink beards rather than tangerine. Ruffled and laced with overlapping falls. Diamond dusted. Femininity personified. Fertile both ways. (Parentage unknown). \$40.

Potomac Fireworks TB SA, 32" (81 cm), M. Approach to red, white and blue. Standards and style arms near-white with pale lavender blue cast. Falls white with medium blue lavender rim and shadings. Beards white-based red, ending in a 1" lavender blue fuzzy horn. Ruffled and flared. Clumps with an abundance of show stalks. Fertile both ways. Great parent for space agers. E.C. (Skyblaze X Stars and Stripes). \$40.

Astounded IB, 19" (48 cm), E. Intense orange self. Up to 7 buds on well branched stalks. Rapid growth and vigorous. Floriferous! To see a clump in full bloom is to be astounded. (SDB Orange Tiger X BB Peach Parasol). \$25.

Maslon MTB, 17" (43 cm), EM. Standards and style arms primrose yellow. Closed standards. Ruffled and flared. Falls velvety purple with narrow white rim. Beards golden yellow. Excellent branched stalks with up to 9 buds for long bloom season. Fertile both ways. E.C. (Frosted Velvet X Alately). (Named for a fine, young irisarian). \$25.

Autumn Tangerine SDB, 14" (36 cm), EM & RE (Sept. in zone 6b). Closed, diamond dusted standards and style arms peachy pink. Orange falls with showy tangerine beards. Ruffled and flared. 2 to 3 buds per stalk. Fertile both ways. ((Orange Tiger x Pele) X Autumn Maple). \$20.

Hot Chic SDB, 9" (23 cm), EM & RE (Oct. in zone 6b). Very ruffled and flared bright yellow with yellow line dissected red-maroon spot on falls. Beards golden yellow and tangerine deep. Fertile both ways for continuous rebloomers. E.C. for best seedling. (Hot X Tweety Bird). \$20.

Miss Meredith SDB, 14" (36 cm), EM. Light turquoise with unique and wonderfully rich turquoise and teal veined "whiskers" in the pumila spot. Showy lavender blue beards. 2 buds per stalk. Ruffled and flared. Fertile both ways. (Tu Tu Turquoise X Snow Tree). (Named in memory of our cherished friend, Meredith Sparling). \$20.

Prince Lollipop SDB, 10" (25 cm), EM & RE, (Sept. in zone 6b). Reddish purple self with lighter edged style arms. Nearly closed standards, ruffled, and flared. 2-3 buds per stalk. Fertile both ways. (Baby Prince X Lollipop). \$20.

Senorita Frog SDB, 10" (25 cm), EM & RE (Aug. in zone 6b). Light olive green with darker olive spot on falls. Standards and style arms edged lavender. Beards lavender blue at end and orange deeper. Prolific bloomer in spring and fall with 2-3 buds per stalk. Fertile both ways. (Rat-a-tat X Baby Prince). \$20.

Shakespeare's Sonnet SDB, 15" (38 cm), EM and RE (Oct. in zone 6b). Velvety reddish maroon self with showy lavender blue beards. Ruffled and flared. 2-3 buds per stalk. Pleasant spicy fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Mini Might X Golden Velvet). \$20.

Red Rabbit SDB, 10" (25 cm), EM & RE (Oct. in zone 6b). Deep red self with faint bluish cast, except in red spot area. Closed standards, wide and ruffled. 2 buds per stalk. (Low Life X Jeweler's Art). \$20.

Tropical Blue SDB, 14" (36 cm), EM & RE (Oct. in zone 6b) White with white line dissecting the pumila spot that is the blue of deep tropical waters. Open, erect standards. 2 buds per stalk. Beards bone white. Ruffled and wide. Fertile both ways. (Tu Tu Turquoise X Snow Tree). \$20.

Tropical Shoals SDB, 9" (23 cm), EM. Light turquoise with darker turquoise spot the pastel blue-green color of tropical shallow waters. Self beards. Fertile both ways. (Olney Belle X Dick Sparling seedling, white with maroon spot). \$20.

Wedgwood Blue SDB, 12" (30 cm), EM & RE (Sept. in zone 6b). Wide, ruffled light Wedgwood blue with darker spot and beards. (Tu Tu Turquoise X Little Showoff). \$20.

Hilda's Gift MDB, 6" (15 cm), EM and RE (Aug. in zone 6b). Rich yellow bitone with lighter standards and style arms. Golden yellow beards. Wide and ruffled. Profuse carpet of bloom in spring and fall with stalks of 2-3 buds. Vigorous increase. Fertile both ways. (Orange Tiger X Baby Prince). (Named for Hilda Cunningham's gift of life to my mother). \$20.

Two Ensata irises like the species wild type with three wide, arching falls and three erect standards. Very vigorous with easy to maintain clumps. Excellent for naturalizing by water. Both are 36" (91 cm) and ML. **Chubasco** JI. Smooth maroon self with yellow signal. **Orchid Fountain** JI. Striking orchid pink color and yellow signal surrounded by darker orchid pink. E.C. for best seedling. (Parentage unknown from mixed gathered seedpods.) Each \$30 or both for \$50 plus \$5 for separate fall shipping costs.

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BREAKYOLK (David Miller) SDB 14" M
3 buds. Here's breakfast - Sunny Side Up!
Egg yolk yellow falls banded with very light
cream white. Stds. & styles are same cream
white. Beards white to yellow in throat.
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Dan The Man

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DAN THE MAN (M. Roberts 2002) TB ML 40"
(Caption X Fun Fest) Great branching and a stock that
will stand to adverse weather gives this white iris a
dominating stance that won't be over looked. Strong
satiny white flowers and lots of buds give this iris a
long bloom season. Well liked in Florence 2000. Pod
and pollen fertile. Seedling # 93-088E.\$40.00




Laura Buelow

LAURA BUELOW (M. Roberts 2002) TB EM 35"
(Columbia Springs X Honky Tonk Blues) Outstanding
form on this strongly flared bright blue bicolor.
Ruffled pale blue-white standards are wider than most
giving this iris distinction with its wide flared mid-blue
falls. 3 to 4 branches, with lots of buds. Purple base
foliage and great growth complete this finished iris.
Pod and pollen fertile. Seedling # J-139A. Named
after a dear lady that has promoted iris and loving
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and row 3 (with less nitrogen, but with kelp meal added). And yet if there is something magical about kelp meal, why did row 3 have so many more blooms than row 5, which *also* contained kelp meal? The only significant difference in the soil analysis between these two rows is that there is only about half as much nitrogen in row 5, presumably because some was consumed during decomposition of the alfalfa meal, kelp meal and Maxicrop. (Notice the progressive drop in nitrogen as each of these amendments was incorporated into the mix: row 1 vs 2, 3, 4 and 5.) Another possibility is that something in the alfalfa meal and/or Maxicrop actually inhibited blooming. "Conventional wisdom" is that too much nitrogen results in lots of leaves but few blooms; this would seem to be negated by the results in row 8, which had plenty of nitrogen and the largest number of blooms. At least we can say that 42 ppm of nitrogen is not "excessive" in that respect. It's also interesting that 1 lb. of 15-15-15 had no lasting effect on nitrogen levels (rows 6 vs 7), whereas the nitroform urea definitely did. [Compare the "Garden Soil" column (unamended) with rows 1-5.] Similarly the lime, phosphate and potash that we added also showed lasting effects.

What's next? The plan was to run the experiment for two years, so we won't dig the irises until July, 2002. Currently we are counting the number of rebloomers among the indicators in each row, and as we dig the rhizomes next year we plan to take soil samples for re-analysis from each row. This time we will compare samples taken from right beneath the plants, with samples taken from mid-way between the plants, in an attempt to correlate nutrient consumption with iris growth. Looking ahead, in 2002 after we dig the rhizomes, we will set up another experiment. We will start over with virgin soil by converting the current walkways to planting rows, and vice versa. We expect to update this report a year from now, and we would be pleased to consult with any club that would like to undertake a similar effort. 

SANTA ROSA IRIS SOCIETY TEST GARDEN RESULTS, MAY 20, 2001

MATERIAL ANALYZED			ROW NUMBER								
	Parts per million parts of dry soil										
	*Sonoma Compost	+Wheeler Mix	Garden Soil	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Compost, etc.				Sonoma Compost	Sonoma Compost	Sonoma Compost	Sonoma Compost	Sonoma Compost	Sonoma Compost	Sonoma Compost	Wheeler Mix
Calcium				Oystershell lime	Oystershell lime	Oystershell lime	Oystershell lime	Oystershell lime	Oystershell lime	Oystershell lime	Oystershell lime
Nitro Urea				38-0-0	38-0-0	38-0-0	38-0-0	38-0-0			
Super Phosphate				0-25-0	0-25-0	0-25-0	0-25-0	0-25-0			
Potash				0-0-50	0-0-50	0-0-50	0-0-50	0-0-50			
Fertilizer, additional amendments					Alfalfa Meal	Kelp Meal	Maxicrop	Maxicrop, Alfalfa & Kelp Meal		15-15-15	
pH	7.7	6.9	6.2	7.1	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.2	7.4	6.7
N	80	2,400	4	48	42	30	22	18	8	7	42
P	370	2,000	50	130	90	150	100	120	130	140	110
K	6,300	11,000	200	840	760	990	850	900	770	940	540
Ca	4,800	2,500	1,970	2,920	2,730	2,980	2,930	2,930	2,940	3,000	3,010
			Total Count for 9 Indicator Irises in Each Row								
Number of Increases (4/20/01)				26	27	32	32	31	33	30	38
Number of Bloom Stalks (4/20/01)				11	10	12	10	8	9	8	12
Number of Blooms (5/14/01)				66	69	81	57	68	58	62	93

Each 40 ft. row = approximately 35 cubic ft. of soil (20" wide x 6" deep). The garden soil was tilled and analyzed in July 2000. It was amended and re-filled in late July. The iris were planted in August 2000, and soil from each row was separately analyzed in January 2000/1. 7 pounds of 5-10-10 were applied as a top dressing in February 2001, and 7 pounds of 15-15-15 were applied in May 2001.

AMENDMENTS QUANTITY PER ROW

Sonoma Compost	- cubic yard
Wheeler Mix	- cubic yard
Oystershell Lime	6 pounds
Super Phosphate	1 pound
Sulfate of Potash	- pound
Nitroform Urea	2 pounds
Alfalfa Meal	25 pounds
Kelp Meal	5 pounds
Maxicrop	1 tsp. per 5 gallons of water applied monthly at a rate of .pint
per plant in warm weather	
15-15-15	1 pound

*Sonoma Compost is a municipal product prepared from local yard waste, and contains no added nitrogen.
 +Wheeler Mix is prepared locally to amend clay soils, and contains chicken manure, gypsum, fir bark, rice hulls, sawdust and volcanic sand.



Iris Introductions for 2002

by

Vincent Christopherson

Joe & Donna Spears

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COMFORT ZONE TB 36" M Heavy bodied blooms are ruffled with plenty of lace. Orchid standards and styles with falls overlaid darker orchid. Orange beards surrounded by eye-catching white rays. Fertile both ways. Sdlg PI-32. Olympic Pink X Pulse Rate Date sibling \$40

IN A HEARTBEAT TB 36" M Bright light yellow standards. Falls the same blending to white in petal centers and richer yellow on the hafts. Beards are yellow ending in yellow, spoonlike flounces with light lavender at the base. Beautiful, flared form a bit different from it's sister, *Heartbeat Away*. Sdlg R3-231AF. Pink Swan X Triple Whammy..... \$40

IN THE CLOUDS TB 28" M A favorite in the quest for pure white falls on a reverse amoena. Blue standards with darker midribs and white falls make for a clean reverse bicolor effect. Matching beards of white with yellow in the throat. Gently ruffled. Sdlg R3-29A. Edge of Winter X Sea Quest \$35

KINSHIP SDB 10" E Our first dwarf introduction. A pure luminata pattern. Pale yellow petals are washed light purple with petal rims and flower core showing the clearest yellow. White beards add a special touch. Fertile. Sdlg L5-3. Low Spirits X Piece of Cake \$15

LET'S BE FRIENDS TB 31" M Nice form and ruffles, great branching and bud count provide appeal. Light purple standards pale to yellow tan rims. White grounded falls are luminata washed rich dark purple. Beard hairs are yellow with rust tips. A dependable bloomer. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. Sdlg L5-107A. Spirit World X Ominous Stranger \$40

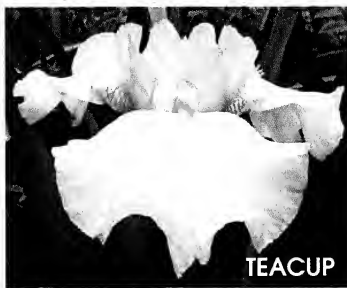
STIR CRAZY TB 28" M A subtle, color breaking pattern. Blooms are light purple with a darker purple wash over the falls that is variable for each flower. Small white rays highlight the beards which are white tipped orange. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. Sdlg 7-1A. Shaman X Ruth Black \$40

TALL DARK STRANGER TB 36" M This luminata plicata with its name inspired by the overall dark effect stands out in clump. Purple buds and bracts, purple base foliage and stalks, even sets purple seed pods. Standards are light violet purple washed over white. Falls are heavily washed darker violet purple on white with rich darker rims. Beards white tipped mustard. Fertile both ways. Sdlg L5-9W. Mind Reader X Chiffon Ruffles \$40

TEACUP TB 31" M A very different novelty iris from our reverse bicolor breeding. Dwarfed standards of light lavender exhibit inhibited growth. Normal sized falls are white with a faint hint of standard color and yellow on the hafts. Looks like a cup and saucer. Beards are pale orange on a white base. Sdlg R4-6T. Hula Dancer X Last Blast \$40

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How to Win Blue Ribbons

by Clarence Mahan, Virginia



RIS SHOWS ARE A VITAL ACTIVITY OF THE AIS. THEY PROVIDE the means of showing our favorite flower in its many forms and colors to the public. Iris shows are perhaps our most important recruiting activity. Iris shows also bring local club members together in a common pursuit to provide cohesion and purpose to the group.

Iris shows are educational and fun. Selecting stalks to take to the show teaches you a great deal about characteristics of the different cultivars you are growing. Learning how to safely transport irises is an education in itself, as are the techniques of proper grooming. But these are subjects for another day. What I am going to tell you is how you can increase your odds of winning blue ribbons by judicious selection of iris cultivars.

This article is written for those who are new at the show "game" and for those who have not yet ventured into it. This is why I briefly describe the cultivars I mention even though most old-timers will be well acquainted with them. I hope you will start showing irises and find out how much fun you can have. If you have started exhibiting irises but met with less than fantastic success, I hope this article will encourage you to set high goals and keep at it.

Each January issue of the AIS *Bulletin* includes the "Exhibition Committee Report." This report gives the name of each cultivar that won Best Specimen in shows in the U.S. and Canada in the prior year. If you review these reports over several years, you will find that many of the winning irises are past Dykes Medal winners or irises that are on the "100 Favorite Irises" list of the Tall Bearded Symposium. Some of these are DUSKY CHALLENGER, SILVERADO, SONG OF NORWAY, CONJURATION, SKY HOOKS, AFTERNOON DELIGHT and HELLO DARKNESS. These are wonderful cultivars, and I do not want to discourage you from growing them. Growing these popular irises will, however, increase your odds of winning blue ribbons

only slightly. Your entry will probably have to compete with other entries of the same cultivar, and could well end up with a red ribbon, a white ribbon or no ribbon at all.

Do a little more in-depth study of the "Exhibition Committee Reports." You will then identify some irises that may not be as popular as some of the top award winners, but which end up winning the Best Specimen rosette year after year. These great show irises consistently produce stalks begging for a blue ribbon.

Let's start with tall bearded irises. One of my personal favorites is POINT MADE (Innerst 88). This cultivar is very difficult to describe, but if you have seen it, you will not forget it. The standards are bronze and the falls have a cream ground trimmed and infused with plum, providing a spectacular background for a bronze-plum beard. A well-grown clump of POINT MADE will give you many outstanding stalks. I once picked the best stalk on a clump to take to a show, but damaged the terminal flower when I was putting it in my van wagon. I went back to the garden and cut another stalk. The second-best stalk from my clump of POINT MADE won Best Specimen in the show even though it had to compete with some other outstanding blue-ribbon winning cultivars.

If you look at the pedigree of POINT MADE, you will discover that one of its parents was SPINNING WHEEL (Nearpass 76). This beautiful plicata is no longer on the Popularity Symposium list, but it still wins Best Specimen awards. SPINNING WHEEL's proclivity for producing show stalks is legendary. Another legendary show iris is creamy white COUNTRY MANOR (Eleanor Kegerise 1973). You will get blue-ribbon stalks on COUNTRY MANOR even if you are not particularly adept at growing irises.

A white iris that is not as well known but which is a prodigious show stalk producer is ST. HELENS' WAKE (Ernst 1983). Another good white show iris is Sterling Innerst's PURE-AS-THE (1988). This child of LACED COTTON is ruffled and heavily laced.

The late Dr. Nearpass once told me that he could not understand why people did not seem to be particularly attracted to irises with pink plicata markings, because he found them to be novel and interesting. One example of such an iris is Schreiner's gorgeous STARDUST MEMORIES (1990). I can almost guarantee that you will win blue ribbons if you grow and show this iris. (If you leave fingerprints on the stalk or fail to trim a brown spot off the leaf, you could end up with a lesser prize.)

IDOL'S DREAM (Evelyn Kegerise 82) is a medium yellow self with a bright yellow-orange beard. It has the same ability to produce show

stalks as its parent COUNTRY MANOR. Garden writer Henry Mitchell once wrote that using many yellow irises in your plantings marvelously enhances the beauty of other colors. Among the yellow cultivars you choose to grow, IDOL'S DREAM will be a standout. Another yellow winner, somewhat lighter in color, is LIMELIGHTER (Schreiner 88).

An older iris that is still winning top show awards is FLAIR (Gatty 76). This cool white iris, shaded wisteria violet, darker at the base and midribs, is pure elegance. FLAIR is also a very good iris for use in landscaping, which is probably one of the reasons that it won an Award of Merit as soon as it became eligible for that honor. Another top winner is LOOP THE LOOP (Schreiner 75), renowned for its uniform blue-violet plicata markings on a pure white ground.

A very good garden iris that has won Best Specimen a number of times even though it has never been widely distributed is RASPBERRIES AND CREAM (Powell 83). It is aptly named because it is a raspberry plicata on a cream ground. It has high bud count, excellent branching, and much personality. I recall the first time I saw RASPBERRIES AND CREAM; I was on a garden tour with Dr. Lloyd

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Zurbrigg. Lloyd kept going back to look at the clump. When Lloyd is impressed with an iris cultivar, you know it is first-rate. You are likely to see a splendid clump of this iris during the 2003 convention. One of the gardens on tour will be that of Jack and Rosalie Loving in King George, Virginia; the Lovings grow this cultivar to perfection, the same way they grow irises in general.

You can also significantly expand your chances of winning blue ribbons by showing irises in a range of classes. Use the exhibition reports in past *AIS Bulletins* to identify which median, arilbred, and beardless cultivars have a history of winning Best Specimen rosettes. If you grow these cultivars with "winning ways," your chances of having blue-ribbon entries will be much enhanced.

WHOOPEM' UP (Brady 76) is an older border bearded iris that is showy on the bench and showy in the garden. An especially bright variegata, WHOOPEM' UP screams for attention and it gets it! If you prefer elegance over pizzazz, BIMINI (Bob Brown 85), lavender with darker shoulders and a deep yellow beard, is a border bearded iris that has won Best Specimen several times. Ruffled and very beautiful, you cannot go wrong having this iris in your collection.

Certain Bounty

B. Benson 2002 M RE TB 36" \$45.00



S. Ruffled and domed old gold with burgundy red flush up the midrib. Style arms old gold with red-brown center. F. Glistening white ground with burgundy red ring of fine dotting thinning to light speckling toward heart. Golden brown beard has a faint blue purple center stripe extending to outer rim. Pronounced sweet fragrance. Reliable October rebloomer in Zone 7. Busy Butterfly X Certainly Certainly

Malevil Gardens

www.malevil-iris.com Vernon & Dana Brown
Rt. 3, Box 118-H Lubbock, TX 79403
806-746-6002

BROWNBERRY (Willott 87) is a border bearded iris that I have been infatuated with ever since I saw a splendid clump of it in John Pierce's garden at the last Memphis Convention. I have not been surprised to see it appear among Best Specimen winners since then. A floriferous brown plicata on a cream ground, BROWNBERRY is a "show stalk machine."

Some additional winning border bearded irises include MISS NELLIE (Burch 83), muted-yellow and violet; IRIS BOHNSACK (Ensminger 81), a white and violet "variegated" iris of the type for which Alan Ensminger is so well known; YO (Ensminger 93), a bright purple self; and the famous BATIK (Ensminger 86). I have grown all of these border bearded irises and consider them good garden plants.

Smart exhibitors who strive to pick up silver and bronze medals know that entering miniature tall bearded irises in shows can result in a slew of blue ribbons. Table irises are easier to transport than tall bearded and border bearded irises. A number of cultivars in this class have won the top show prize several times this past decade.

WELCH'S REWARD (Welch/Hall 88) is a pretty variegata that I never grew because I did not think it distinctive. But I was wrong, because the ability to produce magnificent show stalks is a great distinction, and WELCH'S REWARD has been chosen Best Specimen many times. A close runner-up in show wins is Ben Hager's smoky pink ABRIDGED VERSION (1983).

Other MTBs have won two or more times in the past ten years: white CRYSTAL RUFFLES (Dunderman 86); soft yellow and lavender AACHEN ELF (L. Kennedy 84); charming blue violet plicata PETITE MONET (Steele 90); cheerful variegata BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (Norrick 86); blue plicata TINSEL (Dunderman 73); and rosy mulberry NEW IDEA (Hager 70). Two recent introductions that have won twice are sensational BANGLES (L. Miller 95), a delightful amethyst and blue iris, and lilac, plum and mauve REMINISCENCE (Mahan 94).

If the season is early, you will still have entries for the show if you grow Siberian, spuria, and Louisiana irises. Some Siberians that have won the Best Specimen prize more than once in the past ten years are dainty white SNOW PRINCE (Tiffney 90); dappled violet and ruffled PERCHERON (Warburton 82); blue with white trim SILVER EDGE (McEwen 74); and exquisitely branched, deep purple MARANATHA (S. Varner 74).

Louisiana iris cultivars that have won Best Specimen three times in the past decade are CLYDE REDMOND (Army 71), DIXIE DEB

(Chowning 51), and JERI (Bertinot 85). CLYDE REDMOND is cornflower blue and deserving of the adjective "stately." Although many outstanding yellow Louisiana irises with larger flowers and fancier forms have arrived on the scene since DIXIE DEB was introduced, DIXIE DEB has winning ways. JERI is dark violet with only a wisp of a signal.

A Louisiana iris that my friend Katherine Steele in North Carolina and I have shown with great success is RED DAZZLER (Hale 69). Its red color and velvet sheen are very beautiful. The number of buds on a well-grown stalk of RED DAZZLER is nothing short of amazing. It is a great garden iris, too.

In many parts of the US and Canada, judges will be very impressed if you show a few nice spuria irises. Based on past performance, bright yellow ARCHIE OWEN (Hager 70), brown-veined yellow IMPERIAL BRONZE (McCown 71), and ILA REMEMBERED (Hager 92) are likely to give you blue-ribbon irises. I first saw ILA REMEMBERED as a numbered seedling at Melrose Gardens, and my love affair began on the spot with this spuria with white standards and white-edged yellow falls.

Another spuria that has been winning blue ribbons over several decades is blue-lavender BELISE (Simonet 67). This French import resulted from a cross of two subspecies of *Iris spuria* known as *I. maritima* and *I. carthaliniae*. BELISE is a vigorous cultivar and excellent for use in floral arrangements.

Do not forget that species irises often win top awards. The various forms of *Iris pseudacorus* often show up on Best Specimen reports. Hybrid *Iris pseudacorus* derivatives ROY DAVIDSON (Hager 87) and PHIL EDINGER (Hager 91) do their namesakes proud with their winning ways. Other frequent winners are forms of *Iris tectorum*, *Iris versicolor*, and *Iris fulva*. And then there is MYSTERIOUS MONIQUE (Knoepnadel 92), whose purple color is so dark as to appear black in the garden.

If your season is late, or if your local club has early shows (and we need more of them), you will be happy that you grow cold climate reblooming bearded irises because they tend to bloom a couple of weeks before once-blooming cultivars. You will also be glad that you grow some intermediate bearded irises, such as HELLCAT (Aitken 83), a lavender neglecta; AZ AP (Ensminger 80), cobalt blue; RARE EDITION (Gatty 80), mulberry plicata; and RED ZINGER (Black 85), burgundy wine in color.



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AMARILLO FRILLS (Hager, '02) M. 38" \$40.00

Abundant lace is lavishly displayed in this latest Hager introduction. Clean, brilliant, intense yellow gold color is flawless. Matching yellow beards are centered on ultrawide falls. Seven to nine buds on well- branched stalks. SDLG T6275 LcDpy.

PASSION FOR PINK (R.Ernst, '02) ML. 36" \$40.00

Deep pink standards with matching shoulders on lighter pink falls with deeper veining. Fiery red beards intensify the color. Starchy flowers exhibit beautiful ruffles. Seven to nine buds on three branches. SDLGQM 103-2-5.

SHIMMERING MIDNIGHT (Johnson, '02) ML. 35" \$40.00

A purple glow adds warmth to the inky, midnight violet of this new Iris. A satiny sheen glitters and glistens through the shadows cast by the deep ruffles. Seven to nine buds. Stock is limited on this new introduction. SDLG J094-19.

SIMPLY DELICIOUS (Hager, '02)EM. 37" \$40.00

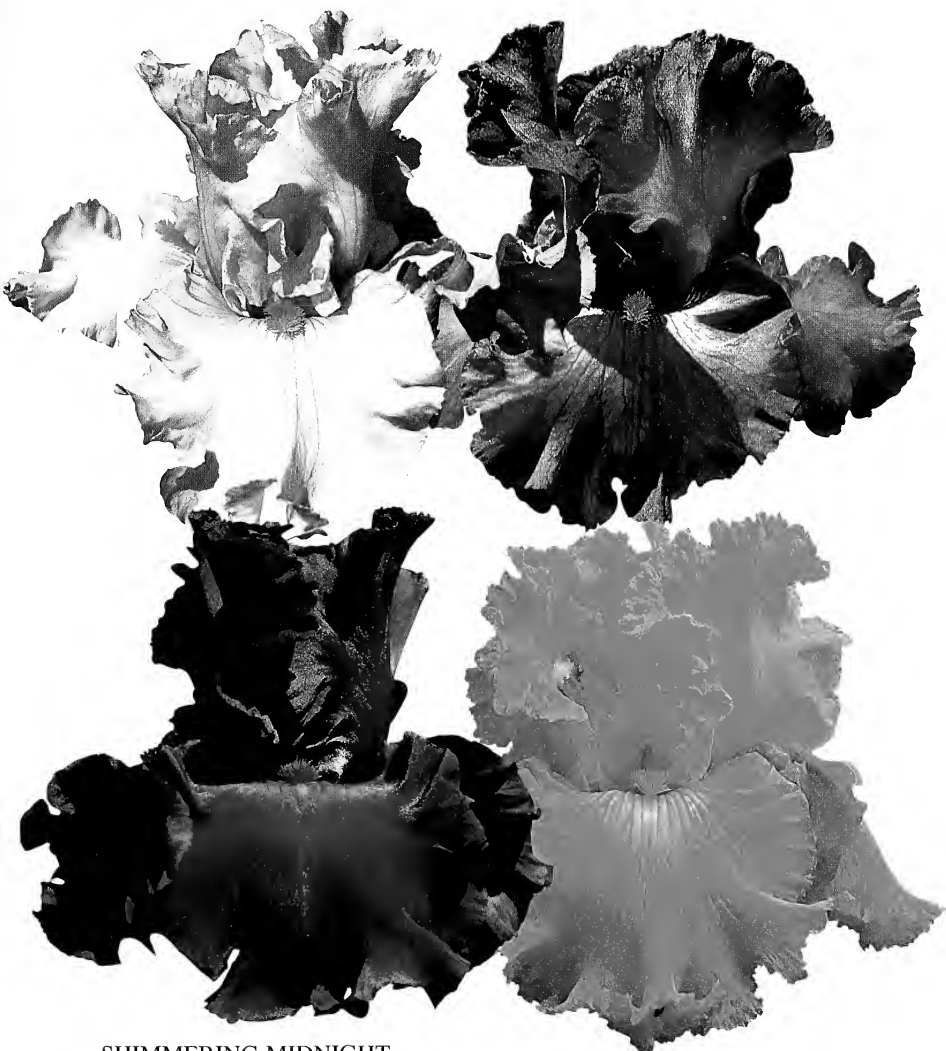
Big, wide and ruffled in the Hager tradition, the individuality of this Iris is like no other. Almost a pattern-not a plicata or a luminata-but a new version of *Glowing Color*, almost iridescent. Lavender plum tones vary from pale lavender on the fall hafts to deep lavender on the edges of standards and falls alike. Eight to nine buds. Whitish lavender beards are pale yellow in the throat. SDLG T5720 RFLvBld.

Our 2002 edition of *The Iris Fancier's Standard Reference* is 80 pages of lifelike color with over 300 photos, special collections and new introductions from Richard Ernst, Larry Johnson and Ben Hager.



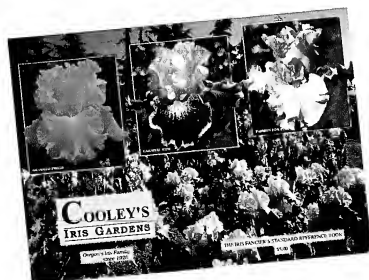
PASSION FOR PINK

SIMPLY DELICIOUS



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AMARILLO FRILLS



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Arilbreds can also give you some successful entries; some blue-ribbon winners that seem to grow well in most parts of the U.S. are LOUDMOUTH (J. Rich 70), ONLOOKER (Hager 85), PRO NEWS (H. Danielson 84), and SYRIAN PRINCESS (Shockey 88). LOUDMOUTH is an "arilmedian" and its height is in the range of a standard dwarf bearded iris. It is fuchsia violet in color with a large black signal surrounding the tip of its shocking orange beard. ONLOOKER's standards are lilac and falls are cream with a black signal. PRO NEWS has lavender standards and falls that are almost green with a gold edge. SYRIAN PRINCESS is only 22" tall, and is near white with a huge brown signal.

You can also pick up blue ribbons in the historic iris class. Two white historic tall bearded irises that are still competitive on the show bench are HENRY SHAW (Benson 59) and CUP RACE (Buttrick 63). WARBLER (Williamson 35), a table iris originally registered as an IB, is canary-colored, and it has won Best Specimen twice in the last decade. Others that have won the top award in recent shows include GUDRUN (K. Dykes 30), a white TB; old SWERTI, a plicata collected from the wild and figured in *Swert's Florilegium* in 1612; and forever popular HONORABILE (Lémon 1840), a yellow and red violet variegata.

Those of you who belong to the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) have a picture of an historic blue-ribbon winning iris. On page 2 of the Fall 2001 issue of *Roots* is a splendid picture of the stalk of BLUE RHYTHM (Whiting 45) that won Best Specimen at the national convention show this past year.

There are two historic irises that have not won Best Specimen in recent shows, but which I enthusiastically recommend to you as having great potential. PERFECTION (Barr 1880) is a wonderfully branched violet iris that shows well. When you win a blue ribbon with bitone red violet MME HENRI CAYEUX (F. Cayeux 24), you *almost* feel embarrassed—it is so easy to obtain outstanding stalks!

I recognize that I have not mentioned dwarf bearded irises, Pacific Coast Natives, Japanese irises, or pure arils. These are subjects for another day. There are many outstanding show-winning cultivars besides those mentioned in this article. You can prepare your own list by reviewing the annual exhibition reports. The iris cultivars I have named have been around long enough that you can buy them for a pittance. If you grow these irises, you will have a garden of winners. 

Myth and Reality: Organic Superiority

"Organic products are safer than chemicals"

*Linda Chalker-Scott, Associate Professor,
Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington*

THE MYTH

Recently I received an email from an internet reader who took issue with [an earlier column] on compost tea. Among his comments was the following statement:

"...You talk about groundwater pollution and eutrophication of the watershed from overuse [of compost tea]. Yet, I don't know of any farmers that could afford to overuse the stuff. You don't mention that this kind of pollution results almost every time someone uses petrochemical salt fertilizers. It almost never happens when someone uses compost tea."

This excerpt exemplifies the popular belief that "natural" or "organic" products are superior to, and safer than, "chemical" products. A quick look through the internet reveals advertisements for "chemical free organic" fertilizer, compost, pesticides, compost, lawn, sheep, paint, nail polish, sesame oil, diapers, and even mattresses. In every aspect of our lives we are bombarded with the message that chemicals are bad and organic products are natural and safe.

THE REALITY

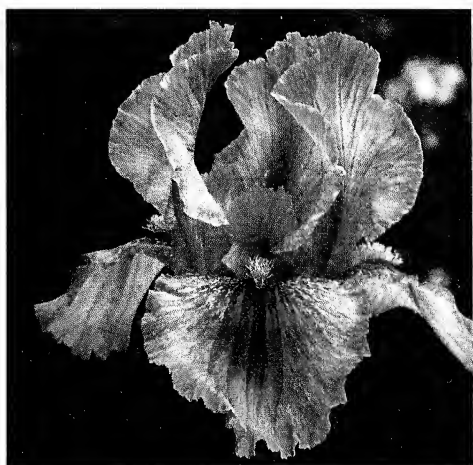
Before we can understand the "organic vs. chemical" controversy we need to clarify a few terms:

Chemical: General dictionaries aren't really helpful with this definition. What is important to realize is that everything on earth, natural or otherwise, is composed of chemicals.

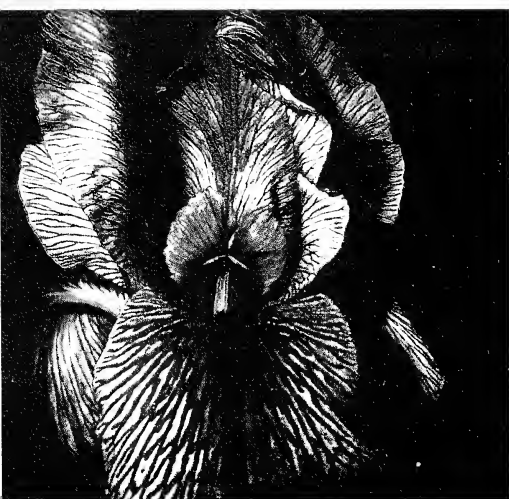
Organic: In chemistry, this refers to any chemical compound, natural or



Aladdin's Gem



Eastern Blush



Frank Rice



Pasha's Whiskers

Aril Society International
Members' Plant Sale
2002 Introductions

Aril Society International

Members' Plant Sale

2002 Introductions

The four introductions available in this year's sale again demonstrate that some of today's most innovative iris hybridizing is being done with arilbreds.

ALADDIN'S GEM (Francesca Thoolen) OGB. This dramatic jewel is an "arilpum": half aril and half *Iris pumila*. It is SDB-sized. Featured in the 1998 A.S.I. Yearbook. Seedling AP9303. (Thoolen tetraploid aril seedling X 'Brownett').

EASTERN BLUSH (Lawrence Ransom) RB. From France. Another gorgeous and distinctive first generation arilbred, this from the "wild" combination of the old (and beautiful) regelia hybrid, 'Vera', and Keith Keppel's lumi-plic BB, 'Faux Pas'. 26". Fertile. Seedling 91/254-1.

FRANK RICE (Frank Rice by Robert Annand) OGB+. This vigorous 23" veined beauty is genetically 2/3 aril. Frank Rice is a veteran grower of arils and arilbreds in Susanville, CA. Seedling 80R-25. (('Habibi' x OGB seedling) X *Iris korolkowii* 'brown and green').

PASHA'S WHISKERS (Howard Shockey by Irene Shockey) OGB. Another outstanding Shockey halfbred; this one with a highly distinctive signal. Seedling 94-102N. (Shockey seedling involving 'Turkish Pendant' X 'Close Contact')



I. iberica bycotis
By Tom Tador Little

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The 2001 Plant Sale offered approximately 225 varieties, many unavailable elsewhere. Sale catalog is mailed to members on about June 1. No orders before that date, please. Quantities may be limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

synthetic, that contains carbon.

Organic farming: The chemical definition of organic does not apply in this context. Instead, organic farming is partially defined as using only naturally occurring, rather than synthetic, chemicals. Therefore, chemical-free and organic are oxymorons, whether in a chemical context or in relation to organic farming. In a Google search, I did not find one dot-edu site with the phrase “chemical free organic;” I did find 304 dot-com sites, however.

Pesticide: Any chemical, natural or synthetic, with the ability to kill a pest organism. Herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides kill plants, insects, and fungi, respectively. The use of terms “chemical free” or “non-chemical” in reference to any pesticide is illogical. No dot-edu sites contain such language (except anecdotally), but 45 dot-com sites do.

The perception of organic superiority is also common in health food literature; “organic” or “natural” sources of sugar (like fruit juice or honey) are promoted as being healthier than refined sugar. In fact, your body’s enzymes don’t recognize the difference between processed and unprocessed sucrose (or fructose). Any health benefits of trace substances associated with “natural” sugars are unsubstantiated.

In much the same way, living organisms in a landscape don’t distinguish between nitrate from compost or from a bag of conventional fertilizer. It’s simply a usable form of nitrogen. The other components of nutritional amendments might be beneficial, or neutral, or even harmful. All components of conventional fertilizers are listed on the bag; we have no such information on compost content. Furthermore, if too much of either nutrient source is added to a landscape, then excess nutrients will leach away from the site and increase the nutrient load elsewhere. (My correspondent also wrote: “...home gardeners...don’t farm enough land to pollute the water.” Unfortunately, this just isn’t true. Homeowners use approximately 10 times more chemicals per unit area of land than farmers do [EPA figure]. In urban areas, this is obviously a major contributor to non-point source pollution.)

Lest I be mistaken for encouraging the indiscriminate use of conventional landscape chemicals, let me state that I avoid using any chemical in the landscape unless absolutely necessary. I fertilize my landscape plants when they show signs of nitrogen deficiency (the most common nutrient deficiency), and I use Roundup (sparingly) to reduce massive weed problems to a more manageable size.

So why do we think that “organic” is synonymous with “safe?” It’s true

that naturally-derived, organic products have a low environmental persistence. Nature is not benign, however; microbes, plants, and other organisms manufacture toxins, mutagens, and carcinogens as defensive strategies. To assume that products derived from biological sources can never pose a threat to human or ecosystem health is misguided and dangerous.

THE BOTTOM LINE


Be conservative in what chemicals you add to a landscape, regardless of their source.

Any organic substance, natural or synthetic, can cause environmental problems when added in excess of what a landscape system can absorb and utilize.

It's not important whether a chemical is natural or synthetic. What is important is knowing the properties (like toxicity and environmental persistence) of chemicals we apply to landscapes.

For literature references, please contact Dr. Chalker-Scott at <lindacs@u.washington.edu>.

Do you have ideas for a column topic? Please email me directly with your suggestions!

[This column originally appeared in B&B, Official Publication of Washington State Nursery & Landscape Association; reprinted with permission.] 

In Memoriam

Robert S. Andrews (Nebraska)

Vivian Best (California)

Howard L. Brookins

(Wisconsin)

Mrs. L. L. Doucette

(Massachusetts)

Larry Ernst (Oregon)

Barbara Figge (New Mexico)

Harold J. Herrman (Maryland)

Robert W. Houck

(West Virginia)

Alice G. Kudrna (Illinois)

James Loveland (Missouri)

Jack V. McCaskill (California)

Sarah Morgan (Arkansas)

Richard Murphy (Maryland)

Mrs. O.D. (Marie) Niswonger

(Missouri)

W. Ed Quarry (Illinois)

Floyd Stopani (New Mexico)

Adolf Volfovich-Moler

(Uzbekistan)

Ed Wilkinson (Pennsylvania)

Johnnie Will (Oklahoma)

Flight Lines

Collected by Peter Weixlmann, New York

Purple Base Foliage (PBF)

I believe that modern TB's inherited the purple leaf base trait from *I. variegata* and/or *I. aphylla*. These were the two "hardiest" ancestors of modern TB's, as they were native to interior parts of Central and Eastern Europe with continental climates, while all the other ancestors originated in or adjacent to the Mediterranean basin (think Pennsylvania vs. California for comparative purposes). However, recent TB's are probably at least 12 to 15 generations (and sometimes more) removed from the original crosses that produced the first tetraploids 80-100 years ago, and that means there have been plenty of opportunities for the gene producing purple base foliage to become dissociated from "hardiness" genes present in the ancestral species. Therefore, it is unlikely that at present PBF by itself is a reliable indicator of hardiness or vigor.

— Jeff Walters in northern Utah
(USDA Zone 4/5, Sunset Zone 2, AHS Zone 7)

I have noted several different shades of purple leaf base. Some are more purple and some are more red. If this is a simple dominant trait, then why are there not more plants with PBF, particularly if it is associated with hardiness? With it being a simple dominant trait, almost every plant should have PBF by this time, yet it can't be more than about 25% of plants (very rough guess). I have DEVIL'S RIOT in bloom now (still not adjusted to our hemisphere) and it has purple flower spathes and no PBF. Go figure! The more sun the base of the plant gets, the more PBF there is.

— Chuck Chapman, Zone 4/5, Guelph Ontario, Canada

This discussion reminds me to ask if anyone else has noted the intense purple spathes and buds on Tompkins' BUTTERCUP BOWER (1961)? This iris, new to my garden, was striking just before bloom, showing creamy yellow buds and intense purple spathes. Interestingly enough, I did NOT notice any purple coloration on the plant earlier in the season, or after bloom.

— Dorothy Stiefel, Zone 5, Dryden, NY

Among recent introductions showing purple leaf bases, Lynn Markham's TEAPOT TEMPEST and Keith Keppel's FIERY TEMPER are intense examples. The closely related FOREIGN LEGION is only slightly less colored.

Keppel mentioned in a conversation about PBF that "in one of the black

plic crosses that was rotting like crazy on maiden bloom one wet spring, the total progeny was half-and-half green/purple base. I made specific counts on the rotters, and it went right down the middle. In that cross at least, there was NO difference in the incidence of soft rot, PBF vs. non-PBF.”

The old wisdom about PBF and hardiness may have had some basis in fact in the early years. Forty years ago those varieties I grew that had PBF often were strong in Sass lineage. The natural selection of Nebraska winters and the proportion of *I. variegata* ancestry in Sass varieties would seem likely to have some influence on winter toughness.

The mixing of lineages since those days is so complex that perhaps whatever merit the PBF may have once signaled is long gone.

Chuck Chapman’s comment about bud and spathe coloring being quite differently related agrees with my own experience. In the late sixties a group of seedlings from AUGUST ASTER showed one with red bloomstalk, a couple with some stalk coloration, and a number of the cross with colored edges of the spathes, a characteristic present in the grandparent CHIVALRY. None of the seedlings had PBF.

Phil Williams in his current Rockytop Gardens catalog mentions that INTERESTING EXPRESSION of Sterling Innerst has purple bloomstalks. This looks like a characteristic that would be fun to explore.

– Neil Mogensen, Zone 6b/7a near Asheville, NC

Sulfur

In a recent *AIS Bulletin*, page 22, Rick Ernst tells of putting sulfur in Cooley’s iris beds to prevent rhizome rot. He uses 5% sulfur in the pre-plant fertilizer. I am wondering if putting plain garden sulfur into the soil before planting would have the same effect. We have quite a bit of sulfur left over from previous garden preparations. Here it acidifies the ground a little and helps loosen the very hard, alkaline clay. While I am sitting here in a cool room writing, my husband is out applying the stuff to our new iris beds. I fear getting too much on. I wonder what the effect of that would be. Last year I planted irises in a bed where I could still see tiny yellow flecks of sulfur applied to a vegetable garden several years before. The irises have done well there, and I see no signs of rot. I will be interested to see if anyone else has tried sulfur on irises.

– Francelle Edwards, Glendale, AZ, Zone 9

We used sulfur to acidify the soil in the vegetable garden, not planning to plant iris there, but when the iris needed the space they did quite well in the sulfur-modified beds. Of course, rot isn’t a major

problem in southern NM unless the rhizomes are weakened from being baked, and the vegetable garden had the best shade on the place.

In Oklahoma, where the soil was more neutral, I used sulfur to treat leaf spot every year and whatever didn't wash away would have been incorporated into the soil. I can't recall a single experience with rot in those beds. Of course, we're talking about older, TOUGH cultivars and beds designed to provide excellent drainage. — *Sharon McAllister, NM*

Sharon, are you saying this garden sulfur helped get rid of leaf spot? ...Did you notice any odor? I would like to find something that would help with leaf spot and rot. Thanks for the info. — *Rob, Zone 7*


Have you tried pouring 1 tbsp. of liquid Dial antibacterial or Soft-soap antibacterial per gallon of water on the rotters before they start to rot? Last year I lost all but one rhizome of a clump of a really nice iris. This year, I treated it and a few others I thought might do the same. All have been fine so far. One year isn't much of a test, but I'll keep doing it as long as it seems to work. — *Pat in Dallas*

I lost a lot of iris due to complete loss of vigor and root growth when I tried bleach, and it didn't even seem to slow the rot down. My best success has been scraping out all the affected stuff (of course) and digging around it just enough to keep the affected part of the rhizome out of the soil, then smearing on a little powdered mortar mix, cement mix, or lime over the wound with my fingertip. Then washing my finger to save my skin. The alkalinity renders the cut inhospitable for foreign occupation, and the nearby rhizome seems unaffected. I understand this would be a bad idea for Japanese iris. — *John Reeds, in sunny southern California*

Iris Rebloomers for Zone 3

Could somebody recommend some Iris varieties that would be good reliable rebloomers in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, Canada? — *Mark A. Cook*

I think Nova Scotia is mostly zone 6 with some zone 5. But anything that reblooms for me would rebloom there. The only problem may be the lack of sun. The Maritimes are notorious for continuous overcast days.

My reliable rebloomers are SMELL THE ROSES (SDB), THRICE BLESSED (SDB), PRECIOUS LITTLE PINK (IB) almost continuous this year, CHAMPAGNE ENCORE (IB), and ROSALIE FIGGE (TB). In the public gardens, lots of TB's reliably rebloom — EARL OF ESSEX, QUEEN DOROTHY, ENGLISH COTTAGE are ones that I recall. — *Maureen, Ottawa, Ontario (Zone 4)* 

Meet New RVP

Jerry Wilhoit, Region 9

Jerry Wilhoit was born at home in southern Edgar County on July 13, 1943. His family moved to the tiny town of Kansas, Illinois, when he was an infant. He graduated from Kansas High School and the University of Illinois with a degree in civil engineering. Upon graduation in 1967, he was employed by the Illinois Department of Transportation. Jerry married Melody the same year and built his home about three miles from his birthplace. Jerry and Melody have two sons, Justin, 29, and Jason, 27.

Jerry has always had a keen interest in gardening as his family members have always grown perennials and had large vegetable patches. The paternal side of his family were farmers.


Jerry and Melody attended their first AIS Convention in Huntsville, Alabama, and were hooked on iris and the nice people they met through irisling. Jerry is now a Master Judge and has held many offices in local societies. He and Melody have give judges' training from California to Delaware.

Since 1980, Jerry has helped Melody with her small iris business, Redbud lane Iris Garden, where they grow and sell all types of irises that will thrive in zones 5+ or 6-. Tall beardeds and Louisianas are the most numerous in their collection, Jerry also likes hostas and enjoys collecting and growing new varieties from tiny plants.

Jerry retired in 2000 after 33 years with IDOT. His last position was maintenance filed engineer for five counties, controlling 400 miles of state highway and 100 miles of interstate. He received the honor of Engineer of the Year in 1997 for his District.

After he retired, he hoped to have some timed to go fishing, do some woodworking, major home remodeling, and even to just rest and enjoy life. So far, this has not happened!

Jerry is a master "do-it-yourself" person. He has built his home from scratch, built a barn, put in an in-ground swimming pool, and did all the landscaping and concrete work himself. Other interests are swimming, snorkeling in Hawaii, traveling, woodworking, and photography. He also loves to work on the farm.

A gentle, very honest, and very hard worker, Jerry Wilhoit will make a fine RVP. 

2002 INTRODUCTIONS from David and Anna Cadd

BLONDE MADONNA: (Cadds 2002). TB. 36-38" (91-96 cm.). Very late. Cream yellow self with the touch of pink on standards and peachy shoulders; deep orange beard. Ruffled. The last iris of season blooming in your garden. Pronounced sweet fragrance. Old Flame x Moment in Time. Sdlg: 65-91-1. \$35.00

CONGO SUNSET: (Cadds 2002). TB. 36-38" (91-96 cm.). M. Color breaking iris with yellow standards and burgundy brown irregular wash on yellow falls. Every flower different. Yellow beard. Sweet fragrance. Solano x unknown. Sdlg: 95-91-3. \$ 35.00

SMART BLONDE: (Cadds 2002). TB. 39-40" (99-107cm.). M. Standards are porcelain white with 1/8" gold ruffled and laced border and they are also creamy yellow at the base with creamy white stylearms; Falls are white with tan shoulders. Bright orange beard. Elegant and unusual. Jolt x Renoir. Sdlg: 41-92-8. \$ 35.00

DANCING IN RUFFLES: (Cadds 2002). TB. 38-40" (97-102cm.). M. Extremely ruffled and laced soft creamy yellow, darker at base of standards and on shoulders. Dark yellow beard. Beautiful. America's Cup x Sweet Musette. Sdlg: 8-93-3. \$ 35.00

MYSTIC DRAGON: (Cadds 2002). TB. 38-40" (97-102 cm.). ML. Standards are blend of olive, cream and tan, style arms same with delicate lavender cast. Falls are blend of cream, yellow and deeper dusky tan with delicate olive lavender overlay and shoulder markings. Old gold beard protrudes in small fuzzy lavender horn. Very unusual iris. Strong musky fragrance. Color Tart x Deity. Sdlg: 30-93-4. \$ 35.00

COPPER BUBBLE BATH: (Cadds 2002). TB. 38-40" (97-102 cm.). ML. Extremely ruffled and laced, good substance. Most terminals with triple sockets and all flowers covered by sparkling gold dust. Standards are tan, copper, gold and light pink lavender blend; style arms same, a little darker. Falls are blend of tan, copper and lavender. Yellow beards. Dusky Challenger x Newlywed. Sdlg: 43-93-7. \$ 35.00

DEEP DIVE: (Cadds 2002). TB. 38-40" (97-102 cm.). ML. Standards are marine blue, deeper at midrib, ruffled and crinkled, with tiny silver border, style arms same, with touch of lavender. Falls are deep velvety reddish marine blue purple with lighter blue zonal area. Deep violet purple beard, tipped bronze. This iris need to be viewed in late evening !! Jean Hoffmeister x Touch of Bronze. Sdlg: 60-93-1. \$ 35.00

BEE LOVER: (Cadds 2002). TB. 39-40 (99-107 cm.). ML. Very soft blend of light peach, orange and pink with pink salmon shoulders and deep cantaloupe beard, diamond dusted. Very fertile. Newlywed x Sky Hooks. Sdlg: 93-93-4. \$ 35.00

PRINCESS OF PARADISE: (Cadds 2002). TB. 39-40" (99-107 cm.). E. Standards are very light lilac lavender, lighter in center; style arms same. Falls: white blue lavender plicata with lavender lines radiating from shoulders. White beard, tipped lavender and yellow in throat. Splash of Wine x Envoque. Sdlg: 122-93-1. \$ 35.00

SQUARE DANCE SKIRT: (Cadds 2002). TB. 38-40" (96-102 cm.). E. Standards are light sky blue lavender, style same. Falls are velvety violet lavender, lighter in center and with border in the color of standards. Beards white, tipped lavender and yellow in throat. Elegant. Star Master x Envoque. Sdlg: 128-93-3. \$ 35.00

PAGAN'S MAIDEN: (Cadds 2002). TB. 39-40" (99-107cm.). L. Light peachy pink self with deep orange cantaloupe beard, protruding in big fuzzy horns, sometimes hooks, spoons or flounces. Pronounced musky vanilla fragrance. Very good, elegant grower. Triffid x Romantic Mood. Sdlg: 152-93-1. \$ 35.00

FOXY DOLL: (Cadds 2002). BB. 26-28" (66-71cm.). Very early. Standards are yellow honey with reddish purple midrib, style same. Falls: Blend of colors: reddish purple, yellow, white, tan; darker on shoulders and with blending darker border. Neon violet line runs from white, tipped yellow beard to the end of falls. Extremely vigorous grower with excellent branching. Needlepoint x Shenanigan. Sdlg: 45-92-3. \$ 15.00

ARMADILLO KID: (Cadds 2002). BB. 26-28" (66-71 cm.). Early. Standards are blend of old gold and burgundy with burgundy midribs; style same. Falls are dusky burgundy with deeper center and small white and yellow zonal area. Yellow beard, tipped bronze. Needlepoint x Shenanigan. Sdlg: 45-92-4. \$ 15.00

CRYSTAL NUGGET: (Cadds 2002). BB. 26-27" (66-69 cm.). M. Very ruffled diamond dusted creamy white self with yellow on shoulders. Beards yellow, protruding in short fuzzy white horn. BEST SEEDLING SANTA ROSA IRIS SOCIETY SHOW 2000. Elizabeth Podlark x Special Feature. Sdlg: 48-93-3. \$ 15.00

MINI RAINBOW: (Cadds 2002). BB. 26-27" (66-69cm.). E. Standards are butterscotch gold, maroon lines on midribs; style same. Falls: Pastel plicata- dusky burgundy border blends to light greenish yellow , then blends to solid yellow and finally white, with delicate burgundy spots. Light orange beard. This iris is simply beautiful and cheerful. Needlepoint x Shenanigan. Sdlg: 45-92-12. \$ 15.00

ALWAYS A MYSTERY: (Cadds 2002). SPU. 40-43" (102-109 cm.). M. Dusky smoky lavender self without shine and with dark old gold style arms and old gold blending signal. Very unusual and intriguing. BEST SEEDLING SANTA ROSA IRIS SHOW 1997. Parentage unknown - seeds from SIGNA. Sdlg: SPU XX -2-4. \$ 15.00

MOONLIGHT SHY: (Cadds 2002). SPU. 38" (97 cm.). M. Standards and style arms white, with greenish yellow on midrib. Falls are delicate creamy yellow with golden lines in center on yellow velvety blaze. Midsize Spuria with ruffled, wide flowers. Blue Lassie x Social Lady. Sdlg: SPU 8 -91-5. \$ 15.00

SPEEDING STAR: (Cadds 2002). SPU. 38-40" (97-101 cm.). M. Standards are violet with darker violet lines and reddish violet style arms. Falls are creamy white with delicate violet lines, darker on edges. Beautiful big flowers on elegant plant. Blue Lassie x Social Lady. Sdlg: SPU 8 -91-12. \$ 15.00

SHORT CIRCUIT: (Cadds 2002). SPU. 28-30" (71-74 cm.). ML. Deep lemon yellow self with creamy yellow style arms. This can be the perfect gift for our not so tall friends!! Golden Lady x Unknown. Sdlg: SPU 11-91-4. \$ 15.00

SPARKLING CIDER: (Cadds 2002). SPU. 43-44" (109-112 cm.). M. Standards are yellow gold with blending lavender gray border, style same. Falls are old gold, darker then standards, with blending lavender smoky gray border around clean gold signal. Tri-colored Spuria with light turning standards, giving the "bubbling" appearance. Highline Halo x Marilyn Holloway. Sdlg: SPU 16-91-1. \$ 15.00

KISS OF CAMEL: (Cadds 2002). SPU. 44-48" (112-122cm.). ML. Standards are blend of yellow and deep brown , fading to lighter brown. Style arms are light gold. Falls are deep old gold, with deep brown lines, giving the appearance of brown overlay. Highline Halo x Marilyn Holloway. Sdlg: SPU 16-91-14. \$ 15.00

Cadd's Beehive Iris Garden Anna and David Cadd

329 North St., Healdsburg, CA 95448 (707) 433 - 8633
By Appointment only



INTRODUCTIONS FROM DAVE NISWONGER

AJO (Niswonger 02) Sdlg. SDB 17-99: That's Pink X Unknown. SDB, 12", (31 cm), M. A true light pink with a white area surrounding a pale blue beard. Quite distinctive and one you would recognize on sight. This is another name provided by Gloria Johnston from her beloved Potawatomi Indian tribe in Wisconsin meaning somewhere between "Amen", "I agree" and "Right On". Fertile both ways. \$15.00

BOOZHOO (Niswonger02) Sdlg. SDB 4-99: Chanted X Unknown. SDB, 14"(36 cm), M. With a name like this, its got to come from Gloria meaning "Hello" in the Potawatomi language. It sorta fits the odd color of this iris which has stds. of olive green touched with tan and falls that are white with an olive rim. The beard is blue. Fertile both ways. \$15.00

CHINA BITONE (Niswonger02) Sdlg. Sib.2-01: Sib. 4-96: (Four Winds x I. typhifolia) X Sib. 3-96: (Snowy Mountain x I. typhifolia). Spec-X, 32" (81 cm), Early. As you can see this is a second generation of crosses with I. typhifolia. The stds. and style arms are blue and the falls are violet. The foliage is a nice shade of green all summer and does not fall over. It blooms during the latter part of the SDB season which provides early Siberian bloom. \$25.00

CHINA LAVENDER (Niswonger02) Sdlg. 7-99: Sibling:(Snowy Mountain x I. typhifolia) X Sib. 3-96: (Snowy Mountain x I. typhifolia). Spec-X, 30" (76 cm), Early. Another of this series that is a light lavender with the falls showing a slightly deeper color in the center. It's a near white with the form similar to I. typhifolia. Foliage stands up well and is fertile both ways. \$25.00

CHINA WHITE (Niswonger'02) Sdlg. Sib.4-01: Sibling:(Snowy Mountain x I. typhifolia) X Sib.3-96: (Snowy Mountain x I. typhifolia). Spec-X, 30" (76 cm), Early. This may have the nicest foliage of the four introductions this year from I. typhifolia. It stands up well and good shade of green. Of course, it gives you that early Siberian bloom with the SDBs. Fertile both ways. \$25.00

CHINESE BLUE (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. 5-01: Seedling:(Esther CDM x I. typhifolia) X Unknown:(?? x I. typhifolia). Spec-X, 32" (81 cm), Early. A light blue with the falls being slightly darker and a small white signal. Another early Siberian for your collection. Fertile. \$25.00

ENGLISH STYLE (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. 72-97: 32-92:((Tinted Crystal x 54-89:(Elvis Presley x Bridal Fashion)) X Just Magic. TB, 38" (97 cm), Late. A ruffled wide light blue with a yellow beard on a white base. This makes the kind of show stalk that our English friends like to see in their shows. Tall and well branched with a good distance between the blooms. The many buds bloom sequentially giving a long period of bloom. It was the Best seedling in the Region 18 seedling show in St. Louis in 2001 with 11 buds. Fertile both ways. \$45.00

GUARANTEED (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. SDB 2-97: Welders Flame X Tu Tu Turquoise. SDB, 13" (33 cm), M. An unusual combination of blue stds. with chartreuse falls and a fat bushy blue beard. This kind of bicolor is not seen in tall bearded irises. Fertile. \$15.00

HAZELNUT DELIGHT (Niswonger02) Sdlg. 63-99: Nothing But Net X Enchanted April. TB, 35" (89 cm), M. A pale lilac with the falls being slightly lighter. It's the beard that is the attraction here. The beards have blue hairs that are tipped red giving a sienna effect. It was given a blue ribbon at the Region 18 Seedling Show in 2001 primarily because of the beard. It has the other good things too such as vigor, branching, ruffles and bud count. Fertile both ways. \$45.00

JUMP BACK (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. SDB 16-99: Tweety Bird X Hand Pollinated, tag unreadable, probably Cream and Peaches which is the only sib to Ballet Lesson with pollen. SDB, 14" (36 cm), M. The stds. and style arms are pinkish yellow and the falls

are yellow flushed pink but more yellow near the edge. The beards are tangerine. The name was provided by Barbara Bowman from Carthage, MO. Its brightness will cause you to jump back. Fertile. \$15.00

KILLARNEY GREEN (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. SDB 19-97: Sheldon Butt X Unknown. SDB, 15" (38 cm), M. I don't particularly like the color of this one but friends liked it. It is mustard (should I say dirty?) green in color with bright purple beard. It is tall for an SDB but can show three blooms open nicely. It's a hearty grower and fertile both ways. \$15.00

KLIEG LIGHT (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. 53-99: Sunkist Meadows X Last Halo. TB, 34" (86 cm), M. From "halo" breeding with the neon glow of Sunkist Delight, a bright gold. There is a small white blaze in the falls surrounding a bright marigold beard. The name was suggested by Charles Pickett from Cape Girardeau, MO. Fertile both ways. It was awarded 2 ECs in shows in St. Louis in 2000. \$45.00

LAST HALO (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. 87-95: 91-91:(Sunkist Frills x Halo In Yellow) X Halo In Gold. TB, 34" (86 cm), Late. This is the last "halo" to bloom for me. It's golden yellow with a white blaze in the falls. It's a vigorous grower making nice rhizomes. Pollen fertile, reluctant seed setter \$45.00

MEGWITCH (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. SDB 1-96: Welders Flame X 72-91: (Star Dancer x Unknown). SDB, 12" (31 cm), M. An olive green self with lighter shading near the edge of the falls. It has a fat bushy blue beard and good rounded form. The name was provided by Gloria Johnston and means "Thank You" in the Potawatomi language. This color does not exist in TBs. \$15.00

PINK ON YELLOW (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. 33-97: Black Hills Gold X 66-93: (Orange Slices x Classic Edition). TB, 34" (86 cm), M. The name describes the color. The stds. are more pink than falls that are more of a beige infused with pink. The beard is tangerine. This color combination is difficult because there are probably two types of pigment-xanthophyll which cannot be converted to pink and carotene (yellow) that can be converted to lycopene (pink). Fertile both ways. \$45.00

PIPE CARRIER (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. 67-99: Enchanted April X Persian Peace. TB, 34" (86 cm), M. A lavender pink with the falls slightly lighter. The hairs of the beard are blue tipped marigold. Received a blue ribbon at the Region 18 seedling show in St. Louis in 2001. The name comes from Gloria Johnston and depicts a holy person from the Potawatomi tribe who carries the sacred pipe, a very important item in this culture. Fertile both ways. \$45.00

ROSY THUMBPRINTS (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. 48-99: 36-97 :(Betty Dunn x Imprimis) X 30-97: ((20-94:(Ambling x Champagne Elegance) x Pumpkin Cheesecake. TB, 34" (86 cm), M. Std. and style arms are pink. The falls are white with rosy markings at the hafts around the blue beards with the hairs tipped tangerine except at the end. This was an unexpected color and a pleasant surprise since I have been working on fuchsia hafts from another line which this may offer some assistance but to date, I haven't gotten seed from it. Its showy and distinctive. \$45.00

SNOW AND WIND (Niswonger '02) Sdlg. 36-99: Helen Cochrane X 70-97: (Just Magic x Marie My Love). TB, 32"(81 cm), M. A wide hafted, ruffled white with green midribs. For sometime, I have wanted to duplicate the green midribs as seen in Elvis Presley with better form which is in the background of Marie My Love and this is one expression of that. As an extra bonus, you will enjoy the pleasant fragrance this one has to offer. \$45.00

CAPE IRIS GARDENS

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Iris Postmark Available

by Jerry Cathey, Oklahoma

(Jerry is a postal window clerk and fellow AIS member)



THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE, IN COOPERATION WITH the Ponca City Iris Festival, will offer a one day pictorial Iris postmark for May 3, 2002. This will mark the fourteenth consecutive year for the Iris Festival and accompanying postmark. Although the postmark is for one day only, locally, mail-in requests are honored for thirty days beyond the event. This is an opportune way for the iris enthusiast/stamp collector alike to add yet one more "iris" item to their own collection. One could send greetings or a "thank-you" to friends and/or fellow Irisarians. Over the past several years, lots of letters - many beautifully crafted and decorated - have been postmarked with the Ponca City Iris postmark.

For those desiring to participate in this endeavor, please enclose your envelopes or postcards (addressed or unaddressed), to be either returned to you or forwarded to addressees, inside a mailing packet addressed to:


POSTMASTER
IRIS FESTIVAL STATION
402 EAST GRAND AVENUE
PONCA CITY, OK 74601-9998

Iris Festival Station



May 3, 2002
Ponca City, OK 74601

Every effort will be made to protect the postmarked cards and letters from "overcancellations" down the line, by enclosing them in either a clear sleeve or postal envelope. (Extra peel-off address labels are appreciated.)

Some restrictions apply: (1) if planning on sending more than 50 cards or envelopes, and (2) the postage stamps used should not have gone on sale after May 3, 2002. For information or questions: Ponca City, OK POSTMASTER (580)762-2485 Ponca City IRIS FESTIVAL (580)762-5345. 

Horticultural Notes

Aspirin and Growing Orchids

from Dot Henley, Florida:

When I taught, I started the school year with a lab where students diluted aspirin (325 mg adult dose) in water and then poured the solution on radishes, oats, or other quick-growing vegetables. The lab never failed. The strong (1 part aspirin to 1000 parts water) stunted the seedlings; the medium (1/10,000 dilution) group grew remarkably better than the water control group; and the weak (1/100,000 dilution) grew no better than the water control group.

Students learned that aspirin contains salicin (C₁₃ H₁₈ O₇), which is found in the bark of willow trees. Native Americans chewed on willow twigs to relieve headaches, and botanists later found that duckweed and other aquatic plants that grew in willow-edged streams grew better and matured faster due to the salicin. Turn salicin into salicylic acid and voila!: Aspirin is made. Recent literature indicates that aspirin is also an effective agent in treating some human fungal infections.

About a year ago, armed with all this information, I began treating our orchid collection to a weekly dose of aspirin. I found that I could approximately duplicate the 1/10,000 dilution by adding ? of one aspirin (325 mg) to one gallon of water. One whole aspirin per gallon of water will stunt growth. (You may not want to use this system if you have acid water; our water has a normal pH of 9.0 and the aspirin lowered the pH to 8.6.)

Our plants have begun to have more blooms, bigger growths and fewer fungal problems since aspirin became part of our culture. The only change has been the addition of aspirin once a week. Maybe the lower pH is a factor... Or perhaps the magic that thins our blood and stops our aches and pains can also help us to grow better orchids.

Triclosan and Iris in Japan

from Tohru Araki, Japan:

I used liquid soap with triclosan concentration of 0.25%, which is readily available in Japan. Following are the results in my iris garden. Almost all of irises are TBs and few IBs.

1. Straight liquid soap applied to the soft rot-infected cultivars can save them. They kept growing after the application. I was successful

with this method in more than 20 cases.

2. I applied prophylactic treatment of 50 times diluted solution (0.005% of concentration) in May, before rainy season begins, to three groups of TBs:

Group A: My house garden, about 70 different cultivars, good drainage, little organic content in the soil.

Group B: My field garden, about 200 different cultivars, good drainage, little organic content in the soil.

Group C: My field garden, about 100 different cultivars, clay layer under the raised flowerbed, good organic content in this bed.

We have rainy season twice a year: in June (with temperature around 80 F.), and late September (around 90 F.).

(1) 5 to 7 cultivars out of Group A suffered soft rot (early stage when discovered) in mid-September, and I applied straight liquid soap; soft rot was healed without further outbreak.


(2) I applied the 2nd prophylactic treatment of 50 times diluted solution to Group B in mid-September, although I had found no soft rot in Group B at that time. In mid-October, after the rainy season, I found 10 to 13 lightly suffering cultivars in Group B. Again I applied straight liquid soap to them, and they were saved and kept growing.

(3) I found severe soft rot on 5 cultivars out of Group C in mid-October. I treated them with straight liquid soap, and soft rot was stopped in all cases.

Conclusions

1. Triclosan-containing liquid soap is effective against soft rot and can stop it.

2. Due to much rain and high temperature in our area (middle Japan), it may be necessary to carry out prophylactic treatment 2 to 3 times a year before rainy season begins. I applied the solution covering leaves and rhizomes with a watering pot. The leaves and surface of soil show some white [soap solution sediment] when they dry. Rain washes it away, and outer leaves die off during growth. I feel it is necessary to treat several times a year, with greatest frequency at a site with bad drainage. Soft rot begins not only in the rhizome, but also at the lower portion of leaves. Cost of the liquid soap is cheaper than the cost of rhizomes lost to soft rot.

3. I will keep trying next year. 

Attention:

All Robin Directors and Robin Members

by Libby Cross, Virginia

WHAT WITH ONE THING AND ANOTHER, IT SEEMS THAT I, LIKE the canary who backed into the electric fan, have got a little behind in my work. Last fall, when asked by the AIS Board Members how many people were participating in the Robin Program, my facial expression must have looked like.... DUH? So I need a little help here:

If you are a **Robin Director** please let me know (by postcard, e-mail, snail mail, telephone, telegram or carrier pigeon) the following facts:

- The name and/or number of robin(s) you direct.
- The type/subject of the robin(s).
- How many people are in each robin.
- If one of your robins is lost, strayed, or otherwise fallen by the wayside,

I need to know so it can be found and revived - or given a decent burial.

If you are a **Robin Member**, use any of the above means to let me know:

- The name/number of the robin(s).
- The name and address (e-mail or otherwise) of the robin director.


I am not being just generally nosy; I need to know these things for several reasons:

We now have a new Robin Brochure going out to all new AIS members. The result is more people asking for places in a robin, and places must be found for them.

There are several categories for which no robins exist, so new robins must be started.

There are times when I need to get information to all the directors, and I don't want to miss anyone.

Some of you are not happy with the new rule of sending a copy of your letter to your director at the same time you send the robin to the next person on the route list, but I hope you will cooperate in this matter, as it makes the robins so much easier to track and to get restarted if they are lost. This will also ease the task of getting excerpts from the Robins for the Flight Lines Editor.

I thank everyone, most sincerely, for their help in this general roundup of the Robin information. 

HAROLD L. STAHLY

8343 MANCHESTER DR., GRAND BLANC, MI 48439

IRIS INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2002

LIEDER (Stahly '02) TB, 36", EM. Standards and style arms are orange buff (near RHS 22B); falls are white with 1/4" orange buff edge; shoulders deeper; beards mandarin red (40C). Wide, ruffled, semi-flared flowers are elegantly displayed on well placed branches with 7-8 buds. See this flower and you will, as the name implies, hear music! To see it is to love it. Sdlg. #92-25: (HALO IN ORANGE X (SUN KING X MARMALADE)). \$40.00

END ZONE (Stahly '02) IB, 23", E. Standards and style arms are red black (a little more red and deeper than RHS 187A); falls slightly deeper; beards are violet black, hairs tipped deep brown. Flower form is wide, ruffled, and flared, a full, "fat" flowered IB that is in class and very attractive. Sdlg. #98-3: PLUM PERFECT X HONKY TONK HUSSY. \$20.00

Please add \$4.00 for shipping. Write for price list of our past introductions.



IRIS MADNESS – 2002 INTRODUCTIONS

Jim & Doris Loveland

305 Fiedler Lane - Fenton, MO 63026 - 636-349-4977

flags@pld.com – www.iris madness.com

TURN THE PAGE (J. Loveland by N. Price) MTB, 24", M. This iris name was chosen to reflect "turning the page" in the World of Iris – turning into the area of hybridizing. This is Jim Loveland's first Iris Introduction. Standards are light yellow; falls near white, veined burgundy-brown; beards yellow. (Sdlg. 98-7: Striped Pants x Bee) \$17.50

SPANISH RAINBOWS (J. Loveland by N. Price) SDB, 12", M. S. golden yellow; F. same golden yellow with a large brown ray extending from the beard to cover of the fall: beards are yellow, tipped orange. (Sdlg. 99-9: Slap Bang x Bordeaux Pearl) \$15.00

GIFT OF SILENCE (J. Loveland by N. Price) Siberian, 36", M. S. light pink-lavender blush; F. darker pink-lavender blush with a short pink blaze on the hafts. Much like its pod parent, this Siberian is blessed with soft haft markings. The standards remain tightly touching to allow the lavender shoulders to speak quietly, and to grace and compliment the soft lavender falls. (Sdlg. 98-6 Aqua Whispers x Bee) \$30.00

Add \$5.00 for postage if ordering from this ad.

Send \$2.00 (refundable) for catalog.



Miller's Manor Gardens

12788 E 191st St Ph: 317-770-7678
 Noblesville, IN 46060 Fax: 317-776-0323
 email: lyndamiller@iquest.net

2002 INTRODUCTIONS

BOWL OF CHERRIES (L. Miller) SDB, 12", M. A bowl of well rounded, plump bing cherries is what this little one looks like. Full bing cherry red blossoms have red-black defused spots around bushy red-black beards.

195: [(Tortuga X Plum Plum) X 586A (lost cross)] X Widow's Veil\$15.00

RINGS (L. Miller) SDB, 12", M. Clean white ground with a whip stitched edge of bishop purple hence the name 'Rings' for this crisp, clean, very round plicata beauty. Purple style arms are highlighted by blue ribs. Beards are white tipped bishop purple.

100591: Crispin X Chubby Cheeks\$15.00

FADED BLUE JEANS (L. Miller) IB, 18", EL. This iris will remind you of your favorite many times washed blue jeans. Blossoms are pale blue washed light purple with fine medium purple stitching along the edges. Style arms are purple and the beards are baby blue. 6-7 buds.

2197B: Cimaron Rose X Melba Hamblen\$17.50

UP AND ATOM (L. Miller) IB, SA, 17", ML. This bright gem in the garden will be sure to wake you up. Standards are light butterscotch blending to a canary yellow edge. Falls are canary yellow lighting to a creamy yellow around the blue beards and small blue horns. 5-7 buds.

2397A: Howdy do X Chanted\$17.50

PRETTY REWARD (Probst) MTB, 22", M. From the best of both parents comes this petite beauty. Brilliant gold Standards top flaring raspberry purple Falls that are rimmed in gold. Mahogany and cream veins radiate from the hafts. Beards are creamy yellow. 7-9 buds.

92PQX18WR2: Pretty Quirky X Welch's Reward\$20.00

HIGH SPIRITED (L. Miller) TB, SA, 32", ML. A stunning color combination for horned iris. Peach pink with deeper peach pink hafts and large fuzzy upturned violet horns extending from the tangerine tipped beards. Well branched with 8 buds. 2001 Indianapolis Iris Show Best Seedling.

4297B: (Sky Hooks X Dance Away) X Reincarnation\$40.00

HOOK SHOT (L. Miller) TB, SA, 35", M. Large baby blue horns hook to the sky from its baby blue beards to give this iris character. Standards are buff yellow edged lighter. Falls are pale blue edged buff. Style arms are buff yellow. 7-8 buds. 60395A: (Triple Whammy X Imagine That)\$40.00

HOOSIER PRIDE (L. Miller) TB, 34" M. One of the reddish iris we have grown and the most ruffled. Large ruffled blossoms of garnet red with slightly deeper red Falls are graced by intense orange beards. 8 buds on strong stocks. Hoosiers still have their pride.

2692: (Hot Streak X Gentle Dragon) X Supreme Sultan\$40.00

Add \$5.00 for postage if ordering from this ad.
 Send \$3 for a descriptive catalog (some color)

Request for Guest Bearded Irises California, April, 2004

Region 14 of The American Iris Society will host The American Iris Society Convention in the year 2004. Hybridizers are invited to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of BEARDED irises under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines when you send guest irises:

Up to six rhizomes of each variety will be accepted.

The guest irises will be accepted from July 1 through September 15.

All official guest bearded irises must be shipped to:

George Sutton

16592 Road 208; Porterville, CA 93257

(559) 784-5107; email: <suttons@lightspeed.net>

The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a separate packing list:

Hybridizer's name and address

Name or seedling number of the variety

Type of iris (TB, IB, SDB, etc.)

Height, color and bloom season (E, M, L)

Year of introduction (if introduced)

If a guest seedling is named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman no later than Dec. 1, 2003.

A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2004, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all seedlings and distribute named varieties, one to garden owner, and the rest to the Region's summer auction. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.

The Convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the *AIS Convention Handbook*.

The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the convention booklet.

Request for Guest Beardless Irises St. Louis, 2005

The Greater Saint Louis iris Society of Region 18 will host the American Iris Society Convention in 2005. Hybridizers are invited to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of BEARDLESS irises under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines when you send guest irises:

Up to six rhizomes of each variety will be accepted.

The guest rhizomes will be accepted from July 1 through Sept. 15.

All official guest beardless iris must be shipped to:

Riley Probst

418 N. Van Buren

Kirkwood, MO 63122-3921

(314) 822-2485

e-mail:<rprobst02@earthlink.net>

The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a separate packing list:

Hybridizer's name and address.

Name or seedling number of the variety.

Type of iris (JI, SIB, etc.)

Height, color, and bloom season (E,M,L)

Year of introduction (if introduced)

If a guest seedling is named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest iris Chairman no later than Dec. 1, 2004.

A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2005, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all seedlings and distribute named varieties, one to garden owner, and the rest to the Region's summer auction. All official guest plants which are returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.

The Convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the *AIS Convention Handbook*.

The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the Convention booklet.

In Memoriam: Larry Ernst

By Georgie Johnson, Oregon

LAWRENCE WESLEY (LARRY) ERNST WAS BORN IN GLENCOE, Oklahoma, and moved to Oregon as a young teenager. He was the patriarch of Cooley's Gardens since Rholin Cooley's passing in 1971. He became a part of the Cooley family on September 11, 1941, when he married Miriam, the only daughter of Rholin and Pauline. He is survived by Miriam, two daughters, Judy Nunn and Georgie Johnson, a son, Richard Ernst, six grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

In the early days Larry planted on his knees, hoed, dug with a shovel, filled orders, and plowed fields. Later he developed digging and transplanting machines necessary to handle the millions of irises grown annually, but he still dug the retail orders by shovel. He handled the field operations at Cooley's from 1950 on, and was made vice president in 1975 following incorporation. He worked alongside his mother-in-law, Pauline Cooley, for over 50 years.




Beginning in 1969 he took over the catalog preparation and design during Rholin Cooley's illness. He was instrumental in the final selection and photography of Gaulter introductions including MARY FRANCES and SKATING PARTY. In the 1960's he did a little hybridizing himself, receiving HM's for his first two introductions, FAIRY FABLE and TAHITI SUNRISE. His other introductions were SPARKLING CHAMPAGNE, SEASHELL MUSIC, and LATE DATE.

He developed great expertise in doing the photography for Cooley's catalog. His work was the finest and he was awarded the Silver American Catalog Award in 1993, "To Honor Excellence and Reward Achievement in Catalog Marketing", sponsored by Catalog Age magazine.

When Larry's three children came back to work for the corporation

in the 1980's, he was delighted. Larry's knowledge in raising irises was unsurpassed, and the flourishing business won the OSU Family Business of the Year award, small business class, in 1990.

After suffering a debilitating stroke in 1996, his retirement became official. He never tired of checking things out in the fields and the display beds. He pushed his electric scooter to its physical limits in maneuvering around the test garden beds, taking a look at the first year seedlings.

His family suffers a great loss, and many friends in the iris world will miss him. In visiting Cooley's you may not have met Larry. He preferred staying in the background, avoiding crowds. He took great pride in Cooley's Gardens, the display garden, the beautiful fields of irises and his Farmall tractors, but he was especially proud of his family who chose to carry on the work he loved so much. 

Distinguished Service Medal Recipients

compiled by Keith McNames, AIS Librarian

1981: none awarded

1982: Dr. John Harvey Jr. and Archie Owen

1983: Jean Witt

1984: Marie Caillet, Allan Ensminger, Dorothy Howard, Carol Ramsey, and Harold Stahly

1985: Adolph Vogt

1986: Ben Hager

1987: Ron Mullin

1988: Ellen Rockwell

1989: none awarded

1990: James Burch and Kay Nelson

1991: none awarded

1992: James Rasmussen and Francesca Thoolen

1993: Catherine Long Gates and Jeane Stayer

1994: C. J. Lack

1995: Hilda Crick

1996: none awarded

1997: Claire Barr, Lillian Gristwood, and Philip A. Williams

1998: Emma Hobbs

1999: O. David Niswonger and Olive Rice-Waters

2000: none awarded

2001: Glenn Corlew, Marilyn Harlow, and Lewis & Adele Lawyer

FAN'S IRIS GARDEN

Chun (Frank) Fan

14 Chestnut Drive, East Windsor, NJ 08520 (609)448-7964

NEW INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2002

DALLAS SKYLINE (Linda Fan '02) TB, 40", EM. (New Tomorrow X Knot's Landing) Light orchid plicata, yellow beards, deep orchid style-arms. Lightly ruffled, slight sweet fragrance. 4 branches, 6-9 buds, huge blooms. Strong grower, rapid increase. HC 2000. \$40

TRUE BEAUTY (Chun Fan '02) TB, 36", EM. (Lover's Dream X Vanity) Lightly ruffled shell pink. Cream wash around soft apricot beards that end in shell pink. Heavy substance, slight spicy fragrance. Heavy stalks bear 3 branches, 8 buds. Vigorous grower. \$40

PREVIOUS INTRODUCTIONS @ \$20 EACH

DIANA SHORE (Chun Fan '01) TB, 34", M. Ruffled white, fine green veins. Exquisite and vigorous.

FANCY FAN (Chun Fan '01) TB, 34", M. Ruffled violet. Prolific grower, heavy bloomer, 3-4 branches, 9 buds.

SUN AMERICAN (Chun Fan '01) TB, 36", M. Light sulphur yellow, horizontally flared, contrasting orpiment orange beards. Exceptional. (See color photo AIS Bulletin July 2001)

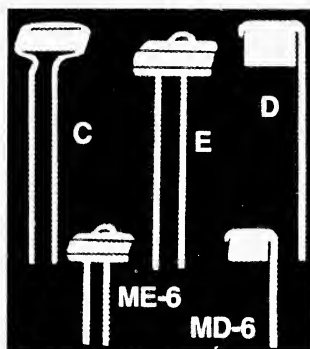
SWEET MEI (Chun Fan '00) TB, 30", ML. Dark violet-blue, ruby shoulders, gold beards. Unique color! Wide ruffled form. Wellbranched. Limited stock. Suggest order early.

MARTILE ROWLAND (Bushnell '00) TB, 37", VE. Big, ruffled-and-laced lemon-yellow, large red beards. Sunfast, heavy substance. 34 branches, 7-9 buds. Very vigorous. Highly praised.

OTHER FAN INTRODUCTIONS @ \$5 EACH

KELLY LYNNE, LOVER'S REUNION, MEL'S HONOR, MAGIC PALETTE, EAGLE'S WING,
MELTED BUTTER (HC '91, HM '96, AM '98) KNOT'S LANDING, WHITE CHINA. (ORDER ALL 8 for \$35)

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2002 Introductions

SEA SPIRIT (Mary Dunn by Bob Dunn) Sdlg. M2141B TB EM 36" Stds. & Style arms blue violet. Falls a velvety purple, Beard dark purple, ruffled, well branched, good increaser (Royalist x Romantic Evening)...EC.\$40.00

LEGEND OF CAMELOT (Mary Dunn by Bob Dunn) Sdlg. M2043B TB EM 36" Stds. Solid violet, style arms violet. Falls white ground, luminata-plicata patterned violet, beard tangerine, ruffled. (925: (Momentum x Ghio 77-70:((Premonition sib. x Mystique) x Barletta x Storyline...\$35.00

SWEET SECRET (Mary Dunn by Bob Dunn) Sdlg. M2031A TB EM 36" Stds. light violet, style arms violet. Falls violet blue lighter at the haft. Beard orchid, ruffled (Royalist x Mary D)\$35.00

I'M WITH YOU (Bob Dunn) Sdlg. B2065A TB EM 36" Stds. white ground with a violet plicata margin, style arms violet. Falls pure white with violet edging, beard white (1098: (830A: (Galore x Brilliant Excuse x Sea Wolf) x Trace\$35.00

KNIGHTS VIGIL (Mary Dunn by Bob Dunn) Sdlg. M2150B TB EM 36" Stds. washed blue violet, darker toward center, style arms violet. Falls washed & stained blue violet. Beard tangerine. White ground.(Patterns x Power Surge\$35.00

STREET STORY (Mary Dunn by Bob Dunn) Sdlg.M2131D TB EM 36" Heavy dark brownish red plicata with solid dots & dashes, brown edges, cream ground showing at haft. Golden brown style arms, beard brown,ruffled. M1062A: (830G:(Galore x Brilliant Excuse) X Hamblens 82-42B x Epicenter\$35.00

NINJA CADET (Mary Dunn by, Bob Dunn) Sdlg. M2150C TB EM 36" Stds. almost solid blue violet, stitched edging. Style arms blue violet, falls almost a solid blue violet, stitched edging. White ground. (Patterns x Power Surge)\$35.00

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Shipping from July 15 thru September 15.

In Memoriam: Lewis Lawyer

by George Waters, California

INTRODUCTION: DR. LEWIS LAWYER WAS THE HYBRIDIZER OF many species of plants. His professional life was spent, in collaboration with his wife, Adele, at Del Monte Corporation, where he strove to improve the quality of the company's crops. At home, in Oakland, CA, he hybridized several kinds of garden plants in addition to irises. Lewis brought to these efforts the same meticulous approach required in his other scientific efforts, and as he had in his laboratory training at the University of California, Berkeley. His iris interest centered on Pacific Coast Natives, and on *Iris munzii* in particular. In 1995 the AIS awarded him the Sydney B. Mitchell Medal for SIERRA DELL. The Lawyers raised a fine family and had a wide circle of friends; having the Lawyers as Scientific Editors of our *Bulletin* has been an honor for the AIS. —*Olive Waters*

I first met Lewis and Adele Lawyer in their garden during an AIS Region 14 tour during the early 1970s. The oaks were hung with potted fuchsias, dozens of camellias reached above our heads, all kinds of plants unknown to me filled every corner. But the garden's central beds, contoured to the slope of the land and open to the sun, were occupied by irises.


Lewis and Adele were clearly dedicated and accomplished gardeners, but by no means dull in their earnestness. Lewis soon revealed his playfulness by leading a small group of us into a basement room where model trains zoomed around an extensive and elaborately landscaped track. A few of us remained, irises forgotten, until called away to leave for the next tour garden.

As acquaintance blossomed into friendship, I learned of the Lawyers' love of music, *Iris ensata*, and water-lilies, and afterwards in

my work I often drew upon Lewis's knowledge in a wide range of horticultural subjects.

As time went on, Lewis and Adele were drawn more and more deeply into iris activities, gaining increasing recognition among irisarians far and wide for their thoroughgoing study of the genus. They were, simultaneously, loyal supporters of the Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society, Editors of the *SPCNI Almanac* and the heart of that society's field trip program, and Scientific Editors of the *AIS Bulletin*.

Lewis was fascinated by the possibilities offered by *Iris munzii* for introducing clear blue flowers into Pacific Coast Native irises. His conception of blue excluded all hues tending even slightly towards purple – he wanted, I think, what painters call cyan. Others of us might call it electric blue. He worked steadily on this project for years; with the hybrid SIERRA DELL he eventually overcame the hardiness handicap consequent on *I. munzii*'s limited southern California habitat. Lewis may not have felt that SIERRA DELL was the last word on the subject of blue PCNI's – he was too great an admirer of Lee Lenz's work to be easily satisfied with his own – but for me it is an elegant and loveable iris.

A phrase from Lewis's writing for *Pacific Horticulture* sums up his iris endeavors as well as his character: "My goal: true blue and trustworthy." 

AIS Gold Medal Recipients

compiled by Keith McNames, AIS Librarian

1983: Melba Hamblen

1985: Bee Warburton

1992: Carol Ramsey

1994: Kay Nelson Keppel and Robert Schreiner

1998: Keith Keppel

2000: Dr. Currier McEwen

Medians Galore in 2004

Oregon Trail Iris Society and The Greater Portland Iris Society will host a national median convention directly following the national convention in California in April 2004. We invite hybridizers to send guest irises from all median classes (including aril-medians). They should be shipped to:

Lynn Finkel, Guest Iris Chair
21015 NE 220th. Circle
Battle Ground, WA 98604

Please observe the following guidelines:

1. Guest irises will be accepted only from July 15, 2002 to August 31, 2002.

2. Guest irises should be recent introductions and seedlings under serious consideration for introduction.

3. A maximum number of 25 introductions and/or seedlings per hybridizer will be accepted. Hybridizers may send up to 3 plants per variety, for a total number of 75 plants.

4. With each plant to be guested, please enclose the following information: Hybridizer's name, variety name or seedling number, classification (type) of iris, height & color, year of introduction, if applicable. Also a master packing list of guests sent, with a return address for acknowledgment.

5. A receipt will be mailed to each to each contributor. It shall be the contributor's responsibility to advise the guest iris chair as to the distribution of the plants after the convention either with the master packing list or via mail. Failure to do so by April 1, 2004 will be interpreted as permission to retain named cultivars for the purpose of fund raising by the host clubs. Numbered seedlings will be destroyed unless hybridizer requests their return.

6. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except for foreign addresses (which will also incur phytosanitary certificate charges).

7. AIS Convention policy regarding Guest Iris Code of Ethics will be adhered to. No guest plant will be traded, sold or hybridized.

SJI Guest Iris Request

Dover, Delaware, June 2005

The Diamond State Iris Society will host the Society for Japanese Iris Convention in Dover, Delaware, June 2005. Hybridizers are invited to send guest Japanese irises of recent introductions or seedlings under serious consideration.

Shipments will be accepted:

September 1 to October 15, 2002

April 1 to May 15, 2003; September 1 to October 15, 2003

Send guest plants to:

Theresa Jewell; 310 Lloyd Guessford Road; Townsend, DE
19734-9544; Email: <tlcjewell@aol.com>; (302) 378-3523

Photographs: We are requesting that hybridizers send a 35mm color slide of each of their submissions. Please mark them clearly with the name or seedling number of the iris. These slides will be shown at the convention.

Guidelines: Three to five divisions of each variety may be submitted. The name of the variety of seedling number must be clearly marked on each division. In addition, a packing list with the following information must be enclosed:

- Hybridizer name and address
- Email, if available
- Name or seedling number of variety
- Description, distinguishing characteristics and bloom season (E,M,L)
- Year of introduction, if applicable

If a guest seedling is named subsequent to shipping to the convention, it is the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman no later than January 1, 2005.

A receipt will be sent to all contributors. Two months before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding disposition of guest plants. Options are destruction, donation to the SJI for auction at the convention, or return. Returns will be shipped post paid, except to foreign addresses.

The convention committee and the owners of tour gardens will follow the code of ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook. Only officially submitted guest iris will appear in the convention booklet.

Comments Regarding Japanese X Siberian Hybrids

by Dr. Currier McEwen, Maine




CHRISTY ANN HENSLER KINDLY SENT ME SOME OF HER SEEDLINGS which she believed had resulted from crosses of Japanese with Siberian irises, on which she and Sam Norris had written articles in the April 2001 *AIS Bulletin*.

Our goal has been to seek further evidence whether these plants are or are not hybrids. This is an important question because the occurrence of hybrids between these two series, *Laevigata* and *Sibirica*, in the genus *Iris* would be noteworthy. There are hybrids from other wide crosses, but I have learned of only one other set of supposedly successful crosses between JIs and Siberians: those of Lee Walker. Sharon Whitney, Chandler Fulton, and I have made such crosses without success, and Lorena Reid and Robert Bauer, who also have attempted such crosses, obtained only negative results.

Of the five original plants Ms. Hensler gave me, one died. My observations are based on the remaining four and seedlings from them. Two of the four turn out to have distinct and definite features of *ensatas* in their plants' and flowers' characteristics and in their time of bloom; the other two have those of *sibiricas*. All of the 25 seedlings derived from them similarly appear to be either pure *ensatas* or pure *sibiricas* with no evidence of the mixed features expected in hybrids. Ms. Hensler mentioned obtaining similar seedlings in her original article. In the first year of bloom we have made 27 crosses using the *ensata* types as pod parents. No cross succeeded.

In a separate article in the same issue (April 2001), Sam Norris has reported on chromosome numbers of four of the Hensler plants. Three had counts of 26, which would be correct for hybrids, and one a count of 24 (correct for *ensatas*).

The observations in the two articles are most interesting, but obviously additional studies are needed. 

Rainbow's End Garden

2002 Introductions by Gerald Richardson
1109 Pine St, Richland, WA 99352, Phone 509-943-9547

CIRCUS TOP TB 34" EM. The progenitor of my broken color lines, this is a pale buff-lavender blend heavily streaked and splashed violet. Offered as a breeder's iris. Fertile both ways. Sdig 77-56-1. \$10.00

CRIMSON TIGER TOO TB 31" M. A darker, more sultry sport of Crimson Tiger. A red-buff blend heavily streaked and splashed crimson. (Before the dual nature of Crimson Tiger was discovered, both versions were guested in the 1994 AIS Convention as sdlg 88-2-1 and the "duality" received an HC.) Both versions for: \$10.00

NORA'S THRILL TB 32" EM. A vibrant magenta-violet blend with a violet glow at the tip of the magenta-bronze beards. Smooth red hafts. Sdlg 92-47-9: (Thriller X Nora Eileen) \$25.00

T-REX TB 38" ML. King-sized blossoms are heavily ruffled with light blue standards, fading at the rim; paler falls with a darker blue infusion in the hafts. Sdig 92-26-1: (Honky Tonk Blues X He-Man Blues) \$30.00

(Shipping included. Price list for previous introductions available.)



Walter A. Moores
1860 County Road 170
Oakland, MS 38948-2701
(662)623-0057
wmoores@watervalley.net

2002 Introductions

CHOCOLATE CHESS TB 34", M. Milk chocolate self blending to golden brown at petal edges with an occasional flush of violet which fades. Beards are golden yellow. Sprinkled with diamond dust, the flower glistens in the sunlight. Gently ruffled with a bud count of seven. EC in 1999. Lemon Chess X Acapulco Sunset. \$ 35.

SHORE PATROL TB 36", ML. Moderately ruffled marine blue self with lighter area near white beards with yellow in the throat. Wide overlapping parts with nine buds on strong, show stalks. Sister to the exciting FOLLOW THE FLEET but with totally different form. Vigorously growing clumps from Stellar Lights X Breakers. \$ 35.

Look for these in Memphis, Sacramento, and Virginia gardens in 2002. See these online at: <http://www.watervalley.net/users/cogent/index.htm>

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Middle European Iris Society Convention

Mikolow, Poland; June, 2001

by Anna & David Cadd, Santa Rosa, California

H

OW EXCITING IT IS TO COME BACK HOME AFTER 15 YEARS! WE started to plan our vacation two years ago, recovering from serious health problems and at the same time dealing with the weeds, plant shipments, digging and replanting the whole garden, fertilizing and watering. Somehow we didn't think that it would all be possible, but after sending some of our iris introductions to the President of the Polish Section of the Middle European Iris Society, Mr. Jerzy Wozniak, our plans started to look brighter. It is so convenient that Anna can communicate in the Polish language, and AT&T was very happy with the bills running into hundreds of dollars after "yakking" with her sister and Jerzy. At times it looked like we wouldn't have enough funds left to go after all!

The Middle European Iris Society was established in 1997 for iris growers from Poland, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic. But the society is open to everybody and now has several international members. According to the bylaws of MEIS, Conventions are held every year in different member countries; the 1999 Convention was in Slovakia (1999), 2000 was in the Czech Republic, and that brings us to Mikolow, Poland, in 2001. We were happy to be invited to participate.

After a few days of visiting family members, it was time to go to Rybnik, where the Iris Convention was held on June 2-3. We arrived at the small Mikolow Division of the Agriculture Learning Center in the rainy cold late afternoon and met people who were raising gazebos for the iris show, preparing rooms and written information. A group of

ladies had just finished several beautiful flower arrangements and the “ice was broken” when Anna asked for permission to also build one – and in 3 minutes it was done from the discarded greenery and leftovers flowers, and not a bad one!!! Then we met in the Hall of Learning Center’s small hotel with some Polish friends, previously known only via letters and telephone talks. The conversation about irises lasted long after midnight....

The next day was cold and wet, but sunny. The official opening of the Convention was conducted by both Polish and Czech Consuls. There were also short introductions by the Presidents of the Polish, Czech and Slovak Sections. Members of MEIS from 6 different countries were introduced.

The next part of the program was judging the Flower Show. Both Cadds, Mr. Lech Komarnicki from Poland, Mr. Oleg Omekhin from Ukraine, and one other person were asked to judge according to AIS rules. We were the only ones with first-hand experience with AIS judging rules; the others had only read the Judges’ Handbook. Unfortunately, not all rules of proper exhibitions were followed, but we did our best, because nobody from MEIS had ever seen a show according to AIS standards. Later, David was asked to give a half hour program on how to prepare irises for a perfect Flower Show, and he tried to teach all the technical and magical “tricks”. After coming back from Poland, we sent detailed Show information, together with Show holders and *Handbooks for Judges and Show Officials*, to Jerzy Wozniak. The afternoon was dedicated to a Board meeting. The main problem was communication among 3 different countries and 3 different languages. Not everybody can speak English, and the Bulletin is issued 3 times a year, every one in a different language, which not everyone is able to read. Speaking is a different story: we laughed, when standing in international groups, people were talking in his/her native language and everybody understood what we are talking about. When people share one big love affair with irises, there is no barrier!!!


After the Board Meeting and a very interesting program by Oleg Omekhin about Louisianas and iris species in Ukraine, we went to see the Guest Garden. There were about 90 seedlings and some named varieties. Here to our great surprise most of the seedlings and introduced varieties were of exceptional quality, and several of them were simply excellent! We particularly liked seedling 93/0038 by Anton Mego, with pale blue-lavender standards with a 1/8’ gold

border, and deep dark purple falls. There were also very good seedlings by Juri and Josef Dudek, Ladislav Muska, Paul Nejedio, Jerzy Wozniak and Zdenek Seidl. We would like to have some of those seedlings in our garden!!!

The plants in the Guest Garden were judged by all members of MEIS the next day. Three Cups were awarded, for the Best Seedling from a hybridizer in each country. The Polish Cup was won by Jerzy Wozniak, the Slovak Cup by Anton Mego, and the Czech Cup by Juri Dudek.

After lunch we packed ourselves into 3 cars and went to see some gardens. We understand that this was the special treat for us and we appreciated it a lot. In the garden of Jerzy Wozniak we saw our introductions and they were very nice looking on first year bloom. Some of them made us a little proud... Jerzy also had several of his own seedlings, and some were quite interesting. He is very enthusiastic about Kasperek's color breaks, but the irises are not performing well in the cold Polish climate.

Then we went to see the garden of Franciszek Stania - this is the "new kid on the Polish block" with one introduced variety and some interesting seedlings. But the real beauty was the garden of Zdenek Seidl in the Czech Republic - a beautiful long garden divided into sections with unusual plants and great hospitality. Zdenek is the Registrar for MEIS and grows and has hybridized irises for many years. In his garden we saw beautiful Siberians, species and medians. The last Czech garden we visited was on a hill with terraces, the garden of Juri Dudek. Here we saw some unusual and beautiful seedlings, and we need to watch for this hybridizer's name - one day he will be famous!!!

Some reflections: Irises have been grown in Poland forever and even today they are growing in almost every garden, particularly old tall bearded and Siberian varieties. It is impressive, that a very enthusiastic group of young and middle-aged people grow many of the newest introductions from Western Europe, the USA and Australia; and they are hybridizing excellent new irises despite a sometimes difficult financial situation. THANK YOU everybody for making this trip so much fun!!! 

The Influence of *Iris Aphylla*

by Lynn Markham, Massachusetts



URS WAS THE NORTHERNMOST (COLDEST, LATEST) OF THE EIGHT Massachusetts gardens involved in the Median Odyssey in 2001. Therefore, most of our guests for the convention were standard dwarf bearded, with a few miniature dwarfs featured in one of the coolest spots in case of a very late spring and a dearth of SDB bloom. But, hedging our bets still further in case of a very early one, we set out a few guest clones of *I. aphylla* and aphylla-derived medians and provided a mass planting of our own *aphylla* collection, including collected clones, introduced varieties such as our BRIGHT WATER ('97) and the Craigs' MINNOW ('00) and a number of selected seedlings from interclonal crosses. It occurred to me as I was planting these in 1999 that with a little help from Mother Nature, visitors would see a carpet of the glossy, almost iridescent aphylla purple in its many subtle variations and might wonder, as I always have, why so much hybridizing effort has gone into trying to suppress this very intense (and very beautiful) anthocyanin pigment, even while mining the *I. aphylla* gene pool for other attributes such as graceful branching, small size and winter-hardiness.

As it happened, New England was "treated" to one of the deadliest springs on record, with soaring temperatures very early on to stimulate early bloom, followed by a deep and lethal freeze shortly before the convention that devastated not just iris buds and blossoms, but even deciduous trees just starting to leaf out. The miracle is that most of the gardens recovered pretty well and, on the tour day here, not only were the SDBs approaching peak, but the aphyllas, having suffered no frost damage at all, were going full-tilt-boogie. Many of the visitors actually were impressed with the "variations on purple" theme; some even ventured into the seedling patch to check out the next generation, and I think the species as garden subject gained some new friends.

To my mind, though, the more important story of *I. aphylla* at this convention lies in the success of its hybrids, both F₁ and advanced generation types. Of the latter, Terry Aitken's richly colored APRICOT DROPS ('95), winner of the Mary Louise Dunderman Cup for Best MTB, gave an outstanding performance in all of the gardens where it was guested. In the Schafer/Sacks garden in Bedford, the two-year clump was more than a foot in diameter with at least a dozen stalks. This dainty iris is a cross of Ben Hager's smoky pink MTB ABRIDGED VERSION, which involves *I. aphylla* on both sides of its lengthy pedigree, and PELE, Terry's striking purple-spot-patterned orange standard dwarf. Thus it combines qualities derived from both *I. aphylla* and *I. pumila*: the MTB flower scale, slim stems, and median stature from aphylla, and the spot pattern, in this case deep brownish orange on apricot, from pumila. In addition, it has the nicely proportionate narrow foliage typical of the best aphylla-derived cultivars, along with the extraordinary vigor typical of SDBs. Because of the pumila background, this iris has not quite the dramatic branching or the extremely high bud count of either the best complex aphylla hybrids or the *I. variegata*- and/or *I. astrachanica*-derived diploid MTBs, but if that's the price (a temporary one at worst) of finally getting pumila patterns into these lines, it's more than worth it.

The Maybelle Wright Cup for Best BB went to another advanced generation hybrid, Jim and Vicki Craig's SPY ('99). This prettily formed, graceful flower is a very clean blue-violet-on-white plicata sporting dramatic purple style arms, and features perfect proportion, truly elegant branching, and more buds than I cared to count. It also was performing very well everywhere, but I remember it best in the Hutcheson garden in Weston, where it was getting a lot of well-deserved attention, reflected later in votes for the award. SPY derives from a number of top quality TB cultivars and three distinct clones of *I. aphylla*: the 'Van Nes' and 'Werckmeister' clones behind its pod parent, CLASSIC IMAGE, and Randolph's collected clone 61-56A (later registered by Eric Tankesley-Clarke as TRANSYLVANIA NATIVE) behind the Craig seedling that furnished the pollen. This is an example of how the use of more than one aphylla clone in a breeding line can result in compounding of the available assets. 'Van Nes' and 'Werckmeister' are both *I. aphylla* var. *hungarica* clones, notable for rich color, a hint of ruffling, and dramatic branching, but they have only single-budded spathes; it is 61-56A, less intensely colored and plainer


in form but with double buds both on the basal branch and at the terminal, that renders possible SPY's extraordinary bud count.

The Jean Witt Cup for Best SPEC or SPEC-X variety went to our UNDERSTATED ('01), an aphylla half-bred that pleased us by looking lovely in the master planting at Hermit Medlars Walk in Foxborough. This iris is a strange blend of pale parchment overlaid with anthocyanin pigment that appears blue in some lights, pinkish in others; there is also a gold infusion at the hafts, and the beards are a blend of antique gold and aphylla purple. It was pictured in color in the spring 2001 issue of *SIGNA*, and the picture provides a far better description. The cross was BRIGHT WATER X TOUCH OF BRONZE, the latter a lovely very pale blue TB of Barry Blyth's that has near-black beards tipped bronze. It is probable that the pale petal color of TOUCH OF BRONZE results from the presence of "I", the anthocyanin inhibitor responsible for most of our modern TB whites, together with aphylla purple that is incompletely suppressed by "I". It's worth noting that UNDERSTATED is another example of how aphylla anthocyanin resists inhibition, in this case resulting in a color blend that would be difficult to achieve any other way. Its pod parent, BRIGHT WATER, happens to have both graceful branching and double-budded spathes, which it regularly transmits to its offspring, but one of its less obvious attributes, very apparent in UNDERSTATED, is the underpinnings — the dense root mass is made up of long, straight, very tough strands, quite unlike the fleshy roots of the average bearded cultivar. These and the equally tough rhizomes are very resistant to rot, and the plants, once established, are especially well equipped to deal with encroachment by tree roots and other competitors for nourishment. Certain other aphylla clones share this feature, and we're now making a concerted effort to utilize it further.

Not "official" award-winners but getting lots of attention in the gardens were Jim and Vicki Craig's half-bred seedling AH70E8, a nicely formed deep violet with nearly white beards, and our own 9395-64A, in very light blue with near-black beards. The Craig seedling is MTB in scale, with beautifully branched stems and a great many buds. (Thanks, J & V, for permission to keep it around after the convention!) Its pod parent is their pink-bearded lavender MTB RAVE REVIEW, which derives from Hager aphylla-bred lines combined with the 'Werckmeister' element in their own. The pollen parent is their MINNOW ('00), from 61-56A X APHYLLA WINE-RED, a

combination that I also have found produces superior clones. Again, the wisdom of using more than one aphylla source in developing quality hybrids is obvious. Our “baby”, IB-sized, is from BLACKBEARD, John Weiler’s striking near-black-bearded pale blue BB, X *I. aphylla* ‘Dark Violet’. BLACKBEARD exhibits virtually the same color pattern as TOUCH OF BRONZE and probably is genetically similar. That we were able to produce such substantial dilution in the petal color in a cross with the intense dark purple ‘Dark Violet’, while retaining the inky beard, encourages us to continue the quest for a true black-bearded white from this line. In what class? Does anybody care?

But if there were an Odyssey “aphylla-bred star”, it would have to be Harald Mathes’ RC-aph-B1, the cause of a major human log-jam in our garden on tour day, and winner by a landslide of the Ben Hager Cup for Best Out-of-Region Seedling. This exotic, sultry dark red beauty, aril-shaped and decorated with an overall network of aril veining, with just a suggestion of a small, dark signal, was pictured on the back cover of the July 2001 *AIS Bulletin*, and I can hardly describe it better than does Terry Aitken’s superb photograph. Of all the aphylla-bred pedigrees mentioned here, this is furthest out of the mainstream, and perhaps most significant in terms of what can be accomplished by using disparate species. It reads: (tetraploid regeliocyclus seedling x *I. aphylla*) X yellow arilbred seedling: (GELEE ROYALE x sib). Thus does it combine *I. auranitica*, *I. hoogiana*, and *I. aphylla*, along with the classic golden brown TB BRASS ACCENTS, and the happy result is a truly beautiful aril-looking hybrid that has at least four buds and seems perfectly happy to put up with the climate in New England. That it also happens to be a fully fertile 44 chromosome hybrid (we already have seed from it both ways with more “mundane” 48 chromosome aphylla half-breds) is something to celebrate. I should mention here that this is not the only multiple-budded, aril-looking seedling in Harald’s patch over in Gladbeck, Germany – arilbreds are his passion and beautifully branched ones a major goal, which I have no doubt will be accomplished!

[Editor’s Note: This article appeared originally in *SIGNA*, Number 67, Fall 2001; reprinted with permission.] 

***Request for Guest Beardless
Irises
(Louisianas & Spurias)
Region 15 Spring Trek, 2005
Society for Louisiana Irises Convention***

The Tucson Area Iris Society of Tucson, AZ in Region 15 and the Society for Louisiana Irises will host a joint Region 15 Spring Trek and Society for Louisiana Irises Convention in the year 2005. Hybridizers are invited to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of beardless irises under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines when sending guest irises:

Up to six rhizomes of each variety may be shipped.

Guest Irises from the U.S.A. will be accepted from Sept. 1 – Oct. 15, 2002. Australian irises will be accepted at their normal shipping time for North American orders.

All official guest irises must be shipped to:

Kathy Chilton, Guest Iris Chair; 14333 S. Stagecoach Rd.;
Tucson, AZ 85736; (520) 822-1497; <ranchiris@aol.com>

The name of the variety or seedling number must be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information must be clearly marked for each plant on a *Separate Packing List*.

Hybridizer's name, address, phone number and email (if available).

Name or seedling number of the variety

Type of iris (LA or SPU).

Height, color, and bloom season (E,M,L).

Year of introduction (if introduced).

If a guest seedling is named, it is the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairperson not later than December 1, 2004.

A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2005 will be interpreted as permission to destroy all seedlings and distribute named varieties, one to the garden owner, and the rest to the Region 15 Auction.

All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.

The Trek/Convention Committee and owners of tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.

The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairperson will be listed in the convention booklet.

AIS

Contributions and Gifts

HELEN AITKEN (Canada)

Jeanne & Bob Plank (CA) R&S

Roberta Shoop (OR) L

Region 12, AIS G

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Bob & Irene Annand (CA) G

VIVIAN BEST (CA)

Leo T. Clark Foothill Area Iris Society (CA) CYA

RUSSELL BRUNO (GA)

Rolla & Alice Eich (OH) L

Florida Georgia Iris Society (GA) G

Iris Growers of Eastern Indiana (IN) G

MARIAN CONROY (MO)

Pony Express Iris Society (MO) G

SHERMAN COOK (CA)

Redwood Iris Society (CA) G

NELL CORLEW (CA)

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EDITH COSCARELLY (CA)

Marilyn & Bill Maryott (CA) G

LARRY ERNST (OR)

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Greater Portland Iris Society (OR) G

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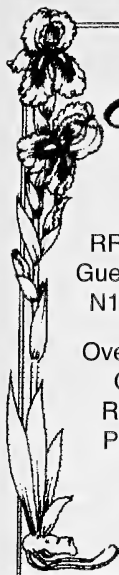
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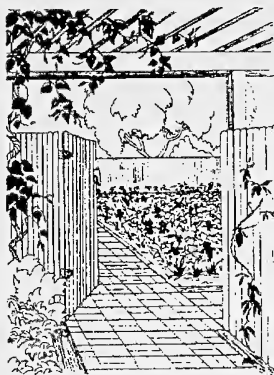


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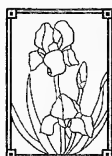


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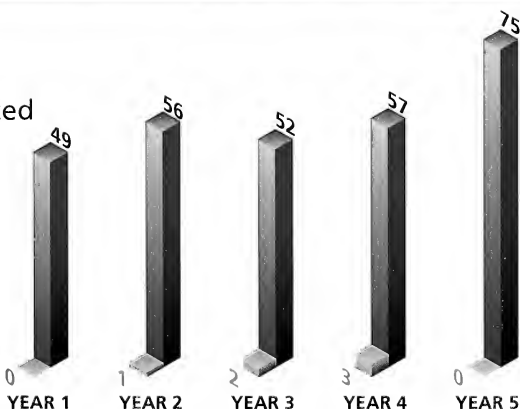
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Photo: R. Plank



Top: Flintridge (Corlew '92)

Bottom: Innovator (Hager '91)

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Volume LXXXIV, No. III

Series No. 326, Section 2

July 2002

SUPPLEMENT TO AIS BULLETIN #326

The American Iris Society

2003 Symposium

of Tall Bearded Irises



Ballot

Please vote for your favorite 25 Tall Bearded Iris Varieties

All members of the American Iris Society are urged to participate in this ballot in order that we may obtain a wide consensus of the tall bearded iris varieties that grow and bloom best in gardens throughout America. AIS affiliates are invited to vote, in addition to individuals. Mail the completed ballot so that it is received by your RVP by September 1, 2002. Final results will be published as the popularity poll in a future issue of the Bulletin. Please vote!

Attention: *Overseas Members* are invited to vote the Symposium Ballot. Instructions on the following page. See deadline on following page, item #5.

PLEASE VOTE

Please Vote
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2003

This is your ballot to help determine the One Hundred Favorite Tall Bearded Irises for 2003. The list of candidates was completed by combining the following lists of outstanding varieties:

- The 100 top varieties in last year's Symposium
- The tall bearded irises eligible for 2002 Dykes Medal
- The tall bearded irises eligible for 2002 Wister Medal
- The tall bearded irises eligible for 2002 Awards of Merit
- The tall bearded irises that won 2001 Awards of Merit
- The tall bearded irises that won 2001 Honorable Mentions

Every member of The American Iris Society may participate in this balloting of the irises listed on the following pages. Each member is allowed twenty-five votes. Please follow the instructions below.

1. Vote only for an iris that you have seen blooming in a garden.
2. Clearly place an "X" in front of each of your twenty-five favorites. The second member of a family membership should use an "O" symbol to designate votes. Additional, family or youth members should use a number (1, 2, 3, etc.) in front of each vote to identify it. Each member is entitled to a maximum of twenty-five votes. Since the ballot is designed for easy tabulation by the Regional Vice Presidents, please follow directions carefully.
3. No member may vote for more than twenty-five varieties. You may vote for fewer than twenty-five if you wish. Write-in votes are no longer allowed and will not be tabulated.
4. Your ballot must be mailed to and received by your Regional Vice President by September 1, 2002 in order to be counted. The name of your RVP is listed inside each AIS Bulletin. Sign your ballot and mail it first class. Each RVP now has the option of accepting ballots by email (by number or by name).
5. *Overseas Members* may vote by mailing their ballot to the Symposium Committee Chairman whose name, email, and address appear inside each AIS Bulletin. It is advisable to send by Air Mail to assure receipt of your Ballot by the deadline of September 15, 2002. Email is an acceptable alternative, and a representative in each foreign country can tally that country's votes and send the totals and voters to the Symposium Chair by email or mail.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

- | | | |
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July 2002

M E R I C A N

IRIS SOCIETY





Iris Friendship Garden at Highland Park

Request for Louisiana Irises

Help build the Iris Friendship Garden in the historic Frederick Law Olmsted designed Highland Park in Rochester, New York. To open in June 2004, the display garden will feature the five recognized

Louisiana species, nine new cultivars contributed by Dorman Haymon, Joseph F. Mussachia, Jr., Patrick O'Connor and Heather and Bernard Pryor for Pacific Flora 2004 and the Iris Friendship Garden. Historically significant cultivars dating from 1910 to 2000 will complete the garden. The planners hope for 20 rhizomes of each cultivar.

Please review the potential cultivar collection listing below.

If you are willing to contribute rhizomes, contact:

Complete shipping instructions will be sent to the individuals contributing rhizomes. All contributors will be recognized in the brochure describing the garden.

Edna Claunch, Project Leader
71 Oak Lane
Rochester, NY 14610
(585) 248-0013
eclaunch@rochester.rr.com



Cultivar	Hybridizer	Reg.
Amalata	Washington	1935
Angel Skin	Neugebauer	1968
Ann Chowning	Chowning	1976
Arizona Princess	Corliss	1955
Ashley Michelle	Mertzweiller	1986
Bayou Bandit	Weeks	1998
Bayou Fountain	O'Connor	1992
Beale Street	Vaughn	1996
Bellevue's Native Chamer	Bertinot	1983
Black Gamecock	Chowning	1978
Black Widow	MacMillan	1953
Bolshevik	Reibold	1936
Bright Parasol	Jackson	1999
Brushed Gold	Morgan	1982
Bubblegum Ballerina	Haymon	1989
Cajun Cookery	Hager	1989
Cajun Sunrise	Mertzweiller	1992
Calera	Nichols	1938
Carmen	Durio	1972
Caroginia	Conger	1948
Caroline Dorman	Dorman, C.	1943
Cass White	Turley	1996
Champagne	Nichols	1937
Cherry Bounce	Nelson	1946
Cherry Cup	Morgan	1988
Clara Goula	Arny	1975
Clyde Redmond	Arny	1970
Colorific	Mertzweiller	1978
Contraband Days	Granger	1968
Creole Can Can	Granger	1956
Deirdre Kay	Granger	1990
Delta Star	Granger	1966
Delta Sunshine	Hager	1971
Deneb	Arny	1967
Dixie Deb	Chowning	1951
Dorothea K. Williamson	Williamson	1918
Dorothea's Daughter	Tobie	1939
Double Talk	Granger	1971
Dove of Peace	MacMillan	1959
Duke of Orleans	Arny	1960
Easter Tide	Arny	1979
Elizabeth Washington	Washington	1931
Exquisite Lady	Owen	1986
Extraordinaire	Dunn	1990

Cultivar	Hybridizer	Reg.
Feliciana Hills	O'Connor	1987
Finder's Keepers	Chowning	1961
For Dad	Pryor, H.	1996
Frosted Morn	Ostheimer	1991
Full Eclipse	Hager	1977
Fulvala	Dykes	1910
Garnet Lake	DuBose	1955
Geish Girl	Davis	1959
Georgia Peach	Wayman	1938
Going South	Taylor	1993
Golden Arrowhead	Viosca	1936
Golden Fairy	Nies	1940
Golden Fireworks	Pryor, B.	2000
Goldwater	Holleyman	1964
Green Lustre	Nies	1942
Gypsy Moon	Granger	1965
Haile Selassie	MacMillan	1943
Heavenly Glow	Morgan	1988
Henry Rowlan	Faith	2000
Hexagonae Alba	Milliken	1933
Honey Star	Hutchinson	1991
I. giganteaerulea Alba	Nichols	1933
Ice Angel	Faggard	1988
Ila Nunn	Arny	1967
Isle Bonne	Viosca	1935
J. D. Nies	Nies	1934
Jeri	Bertinot	1984
Kay Nelson	Granger	1986
Kelly's Choice	Morgan	1991
Kentucky Cajun	Norris	1994
Koorawatha	Taylor	1984
Lafayette	Riggs	1944
Lavender Ruffles	Goula	1979
Little Star	Wyatt	1974
Lockett's Luck	Thibbault	1947
Longue Vue	Haymon	1999
Louise Austin	Arcenaux	1945
Mallard Wing	Nies	1940
Margaret Hunter	MacMillan	1970
Marie Caillet	Conger	1963
Mary Dunn	Hager	1974
Mary S. DeBailion	Dorman, C.	1943
Monument	Dunn	1977
Mrs. Ira Nelson	Arny	1969
My Sea Spray	Craig	1995

Cultivar	Hybridizer	Reg.
New Comer	Holleyman	1960
Old South	Dunn	1985
Old Spice	Nelson	1944
Our Parris	Carroll	1987
Peasant's Pride	Neugebauer	1964
Peggy Mac	MacMillan	1943
Pink Joy Roberts	Roberts	1954
Potpourri Rose	Pryor, H.	1995
Praline Festival	Haymon	1992
Professor Ike	Mertzweiller	1973
Pumpkin Chiffon	Shepared	1999
Puttytat	Arny	1958
Queen O' Queens	Holleyman	1966
Red Dazzler	Hale	1969
Red Echo	Rowlan	1983
Red Velvet Elvis	Vaughn	1996
Rhett	Dunn	1982
Rocket Launch	Betts	1997
Romantic Glow	Dunn	1998
Rose of Abbeyville	Dorman, C.	1949
Rose Surprise	Clark	1953
Roses and Wine	Conger	1948
Ruth Holleyman	Holleyman	1954
Ruth Sloan	Sloan	1984
San Franando	Nies	1942
Sauterne	Durio	1981
Sinfonietta	Raabe	1986
Snowy Change	Faggard	1994
Southern	Ghio	1981
Starlite Starbrite	Granger	1985
State Blue	Fanick	1937
Sundown Shadows	Ghio	1972
Sweet Mariam	Hutchinson	1998
Tex-Sun	Allen	1939
Texas Cajun	Roberts	1934
The Khan	Dorman, C.	1949
This I Love	Chowning	1973
Trail of Tears	Chowning	1973
Treecie	Patin	1965
Twirling Ballerina	Rowlan	1986
Valera	Arny	1980
Velvet Queen	Duplechian	1953
Voodoo Music	Rowlan	1987
W. B. Macmillan	Conger	1957
Wheelhorse	Dorman, C.	1952

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AIS Bulletin

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The American Iris Society

Officers & Committee Chairpeople

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED February 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the Iris.

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Society for Siberian Iris	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Society for Japanese Iris	5.00	12.50	6.00	15.00
Reblooming Iris Society	7.00	18.00	8.00	21.00
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Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00
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President's Message

by Terry Aitken, Washington State

I

CONSIDER 2002 TO BE A VINTAGE YEAR IN THE IRIS WORLD! In spite of early concerns, TB bloom at the National Convention in Memphis was "on schedule" and, with a good diversity of garden settings and good weather, many excellent cultivars provided an outstanding show. An extensive report will follow in the next issue. Our thanks to Elke Longworth and her team for putting on an excellent convention.

Immediately after the Memphis Convention, we were off to Italy for the International Iris Competition in Florence. For novice travelers in Europe, it was a fairytale trip of many dimensions and will be the subject of a future article. Once again, weather was good, bloom was uniformly excellent, and the company was delightful. Final point scoring was very tight with only 4% between first and tenth place. Paul Black's DUDE RANCH ('00) was the first place winner with many countries represented in the top ten. It was a truly international competition!

Our return to the Northwest dropped us into the middle of our 3-month long bloom season. I consider this to be our best season in 25 years. I have never seen such outstanding branching, bud count, wonderful flower color, form and substance. (We had very little winter damage.) Whatever we did right, I wish we could bottle it! We even have reblooming SDB's starting up while the last of the TB's are going down!


As we drift into summer, it is voting time for the general membership on the Symposium Ballot and the Awards Ballot for the judges. Also, it is decision time for next year's introductions by hybridizers. Members, PLEASE VOTE your Symposium Ballot.



Terry Aitken, AIS President

RVP's should publish the results of Regional ballots in your regional news, so local growers can see which varieties tend to do well in your particular climate. Please realize that the final AIS tally reflects voting on a worldwide basis.

Hybridizers will be analyzing the awards results to figure out why some plants are winners and others are not. Several factors have emerged in past years which seem to affect the winners; the winners share VIGOR, CLIMATE TOLERANCE, INTERESTING COLORS and PATTERNS, and DISTRIBUTION. Judges cannot vote for plants they have not seen. Hybridizers have a responsibility to get their plants into the regional and National conventions. Lady Luck plays a major role as well. Having your plants in bloom when the judges visit is frequently beyond your control. We can only try! Regional organizations need to encourage local hybridizers and judges by providing a system of tour gardens (test gardens?) for these activities.

Member participation is essential to a successful system. 

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Editor's Message

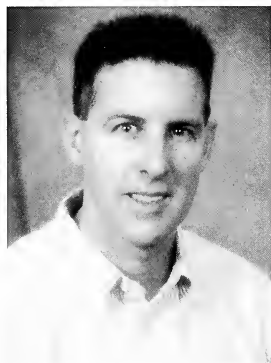
by Bruce Filardi, Oregon

AS I SIT DOWN TO WRITE THIS EDITOR'S MESSAGE, IT IS mid-June and the July *Bulletin* is close to finished. Our first two days of hot weather have just hastened the end of bloom season during this past week. We enjoyed a very long and pleasant season, due to an unusually cool May. As with every year, there were some wonderful surprises in my garden (such as Ed Roberts' DETROIT CITY) and some disappointments (my own seedlings!).

Towards the start of Oregon's SDB season, I flew to Tennessee for our National Convention, where we hit peak TB bloom. The entire Convention was a great experience, due in large part to the guiding hand of Convention Chair Elke Longworth. Elke is an interesting blend of Southern charm and German efficiency. The Convention was meticulously planned and thought-out, and the guests would never have suspected that the whole enterprise was dropped in Elke's lap only about two years ago! A tremendous "thank you" and "job well done!" to Elke for her many hours of planning and work and stress. I just hope she was able to enjoy the Convention as much as her guests did.

One of the best parts of the Convention was making new friends and furthering friendships with people met before. A special treat for me was getting to know Tom and Grace Parkhill, Tennesseans with whom I had corresponded for a few years. You couldn't have asked for nicer people! And it was a lot of fun to share Tom's enthusiasm for his recent introductions and seedlings which were on display this year; I think his Convention was topped off when his MIAH JANE was voted runner-up for the President's Cup.

And what was the *worst* part of the Convention?, you ask. The only




Bruce Filardi, Editor

thing that comes to mind was meeting Walter Moores for the first time. Now those of you who know Walter may be surprised to hear me say that – so let me explain. When I introduced myself to Walter, his first words to me were: “My, you look *much* older than your picture in the *Bulletin*!” Thanks, Walter!!

One of the most moving parts of National was the welcoming address by Gladys Crump Pierce. She shared with us the story of the very first iris society meeting she attended more than 50 years ago, and told us how much a warm welcome had meant to her on that occasion. We understand that Mrs. Pierce was a great help to her husband in his endeavors to found the Memphis Botanic Garden, and we shared the couple’s joy a few nights later when John Pierce’s appropriately-named TENNESSEE BICENTENNIAL was awarded the President’s Cup. Mrs. Pierce capped her talk by reciting her poem *Superb Reward*, to which every hybridizer and iris lover can relate:

Superb Reward

All the dreams of a beautiful blossom,
 All the plans in selecting a cross,
 All the waiting for seed development,
 All the fears of a precious loss,
 All the work that goes into planting,
 All the fertilizing and care,
 All the anticipation and watching,
 As friends and neighbors stare:
 Dreams, plans, work, waiting
 Turn to pure bliss
 When you gaze for the very first time
 At a gorgeous new iris.

— Gladys Crump Pierce 

Annual President's Letter



EACH YEAR THE TERMS OF OFFICE EXPIRE FOR ONE THIRD OF the twelve directors of the American Iris Society; and four are elected to fill those positions. As provided in the AIS Bylaws, a five member Personnel Committee recommends to the AIS Board of Directors a selection of candidates for nomination as directors. From this list the incumbent Board of Directors chooses by written ballot the slate of four candidates to be presented to the membership.

The Personnel Committee consists of five members selected to serve each year from their parent body: two directors selected by the Board of Directors, two RVPs selected by the Board of Counselors, and one section representative by the Section Advisory Board.

Approved during the 2002 spring meeting held in Memphis, TN, in accordance with the AIS Bylaws, the following four individuals are the 2002 nominees for regular three year terms expiring in the fall of the year 2005:

- Candidate #1 Louise Carson
- Candidate #2 John Jones
- Candidate #3 John Ludi
- Candidate #4 George Sutton

The Bylaws provide that additional nominations may be made by any forty members, of whom not more than fifteen may be located in any one region. Such additional nominations must be received by the AIS Secretary on or before August 30, 2002. Should additional nominations be made, a ballot on which all nominees are listed will be mailed on or before September 30, 2002, to all AIS members and must be received by the AIS Secretary or Election Committee (if one is appointed) on or before October 29, 2002. If there are no nominations in addition to those listed above, issuance of a ballot shall be omitted and the original nominees considered elected.

– Terry Aitken, President

Youth Views

by Jean E. Morris, Missouri

Clarke Cosgrove Winners Announced

The 2002 Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement winner is Nicole Grzeskowiak of Hermann, Missouri. First Runner-Up went to Elizabeth Rocha of Ramona, California, and Christopher Rust of Union, Missouri, won the Second Runner-Up award. Congratulations to all.

Eighteen-year-old Nicole Grzeskowiak, an AIS youth member since 1993, has been growing and showing irises since age eight. She has participated in numerous iris activities and has earned many awards over the years. She is a member of the Washington Iris Club and the Greater St. Louis Iris Society. She actively participates in club meetings, shows and sales and currently serves as Youth Advisor for the Washington Iris Club.

Nicole grows an extensive iris garden in excess of 200 tall bearded, median and Siberian varieties. She lives in an historic town and her garden attracts many visitors each year. Nicole has won many show awards in the Youth Division including Best Specimen, Best Design, Design Sweepstakes and Best Educational Exhibit.

She has attended local, regional and national convention tours and has completed her Judge's Training hours as a student; she is in line for promotion to the Apprentice level. She is a very good speaker and promotes her iris interests well.

One of Nicole's major accomplishments is her involvement in an elite farming program called the Missouri Agribusiness Academy. She was nominated for this program based on scholarship, activities, horticulture/farming interests and personal integrity. She is one of 30 students chosen statewide and the only one involved in horticulture - and that horticulture area is irises. This program requires that she keep detailed garden records including purchase of growing stock, equipment, supplies, propagation of stock, losses, sales, experiments and awards. These records parallel those of a commercial iris garden owner.

Setting up a Classroom Iris Project (CIP) at her high school is

another task Nicole took on. She approached the Washington Iris Club about sponsoring the CIP; outlined, presented and sold the program to her School Board, Principal and horticulture teachers; chose a planting site; designed the beds and arranged for the tilling; secured over 200 iris rhizomes and dozens of perennials for the garden; prepared garden markers; and supervised her fellow students in the planting of the garden. Then she personally signed up 32 CIP students and two teachers for AIS membership. All of this took a great deal of planning and initiative on Nicole's part since she is involved in many after school activities, especially sports.

Nicole earned 340 points in the AIS Membership Contest as a result of recruiting the CIP students and teachers. She won handily in the youth category of the contest and, in fact, outdid adults who entered. In addition to receiving the Clarke Cosgrove Trophy and check, she also was awarded the AIS Membership Contest Plaque.

Region 18 members who know Nicole describe her as self-confident, focused and energetic. She is always willing to help others and is usually the first to volunteer.

Earning the First Runner-Up award was fifteen-year-old Elizabeth Rocha of Region 15. Beth, an AIS youth member since 1997, is a member of the San Diego Iris Society and participates in both local and regional meetings and treks. She was recently promoted to Apprentice Judge and has clerked at iris shows. She also likes to compete in shows and won Best Youth Specimen in 2000.

Beth is involved in hybridizing, and her two- and three-year seedlings were seen on the last Region 15 Trek. She continues to make crosses each year and her seedling patch is growing. Beth's garden, along with that of her family, contains LAs, PCIs, TBs, Medians, arilbreds and species. Several iris species were given to Beth by a local botanist who collected them in their natural habitat. Beth finds the business of running a region interesting and was recently appointed "Youth Ambassador" by the Region 15 Board.

Beth has donated many iris rhizomes to beautify the schools she has attended including 200, with labels, to her high school FFA department. She consistently helps at club meetings, shows and sales wherever needed. People know they can depend on her for outstanding effort and a positive attitude. In the words of one Region 15 member, "Beth is a delightful young lady, imbued with grace and charm, who seriously pursues her interest in irises in a manner that would serve as a

model for adult irisarians, let alone other youths.”

Christopher Rust of Region 18, Clarke Cosgrove Second Runner-Up winner, has been an AIS youth since 1995. He is thirteen years old and belongs to the Washington Iris Club where he is known as a cheerful worker willing to lift or move anything heavy.


He grows about 100 irises in a large raised bed. These include TBs, Japanese, species, historics, Medians, dwarfs, Siberians, Dutch and rebloomers. He is a hybridizer with one goal being to introduce a perfect blue TB. But he also has SDB seedlings lined out from a cross of TWEETY BIRD X GNUZ SPREAD along with many MTB rebloomers. He prefers good, simple form and good branching in his irises and recently signed up in the Judges' Training program.

Christopher visits local and regional gardens, digs and donates his rhizomes to club sales and promotes irises to others. He has been successful at shows, having won Youth Silver and Bronze Medals, Best Design, Design Sweepstakes and a Bronze Medal for his Educational Exhibit. He is famous for his English Box displays. Christopher has many interests, especially basketball and track, but he always makes time for his irises.

Club members describe Christopher as polite, enthusiastic, helpful and imaginative. They also appreciate his fun-loving attitude and his winning smile.

Congratulations to all three of these outstanding AIS youth members. You are an asset to your families, clubs, regions and to the American Iris Society.

Thank You for the Rhizomes

The Youth Committee and the youth members of the AIS wish to thank the following people for donating iris rhizomes in 2001 to be used as youth prizes or in school gardens: Bill & Ada Godfrey, Schreiner's Garden, Herb & Sara Holk, Pete DeSantis, Roy Epperson, Linda Golembieski, Bob & Gerry McFarland, Annette Milch, Lou Kirkland, Mary & Hugh Thurman, Nyla Hughes, Jerry Patton, Cindy Rust, Jim Morris, Tom & Rita Gormley, Joe & Donna Spears, Greg & Macey McCullough, Clarence Mahan, the Washington Iris Club, the Kirkwood Iris Society and the Greater St. Louis Iris Society. Apologies to those we failed to mention, as we are often unaware of generous AIS members who help out youth members. Hundreds of rhizomes were sent out and many nice thank you notes were received. 

International News

From Italy:

We are pleased to announce the results of the 2002 International Iris Competition in Florence, Italy. Congratulations to the hybridizers of all the award winners.

- 1st DUDE RANCH (Paul Black, USA)
- 2nd HAUT LES VOILES (R. Cayeux, France)
- 3rd ANVIL OF DARKNESS (S. Innerst, USA)
- 4th HIGH STAKES (Schreiner, USA)
- 5th LARK RISE (C.E.C. Bartlett, UK)
- 6th HABIT (Paul Black, USA)
- 7th CLEARWATER RIVER (Rick Ernst, USA)
- 8th TWILIGHT CLOUD (Chuck Chapman, Canada)
- 9th SHARE THE SPIRIT (G. Grosvenor, Australia)
- 10th BRAZENBERRY (S. Innerst, USA)

Best Red: MERLOT (Schreiner, USA)

Best Commercial Variety: HAUT LES VOILES (R. Cayeux, France)

Best Italian Variety: I SEEK YOU (A. Bianco, Italy)

Best Branched: HIGH STAKES (Schreiner, USA)

Most Original Color: ARTIST'S PALLETTE (C. Chapman, Canada)

Best Scented: SHARE THE SPIRIT (G. Grosvenor, Australia)

Best Blue: RIVER RUNNER (R. Ernst, USA)

From Australia:

We have also received notification of this year's award winners in Australia, and we again offer sincere congratulations to the hybridizers.

Dykes Medal: GOING SOUTH (LA - J. Taylor)

I.S.A Medal: EIDOLIA (TB - G. Grosvenor)

S.L.I.S Gold Medal: UNDERCOVER (LA - J. Taylor)

Top awards in the N.S.W Trail gardens were as follows:

Loveridge Medallion (Beardless): TRUE QUEST (LA - J. Taylor)


Johnson Medallion (Bearded): JAYCEETEE (TB - G. Grosvenor)

NSW show champions:

NSW Grand Champion: MINERAL SPRINGS (LA - Taylor '04)

Best Bearded: DANCING IN PINK (TB - Grosvenor '03)

From the Czech Republic:

Anna and David Cadd have written to inform us that they have received some interesting lily seeds from Mr. Jiri Dudek of the Czech Republic. They will be glad to share these seeds, at no charge, with interested irisarians. For more info, contact the Cadds at 329 North Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95448; tel: (707) 433-8633. 

BILL & ADA GODFREY'S 2001 INTRODUCTIONS

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AMONG FRIENDS (Varner WT) MTB

\$20.00

Pure white domed standards; rounded flared black-purple falls edged pure white, white beards. Form of this classic dainty miniature tall bearded iris is excellent, it increases readily, blossoms well, and easily sets seed. Another of the Varner aristocrats. 0-363: (Valiant Warrior x Parakeet) X P-331: (Consummation x M0310: (K-305: (Consummation x Desert Quail) x K-311: ((First Call x Colonial Lady) x Lavender Doll) x Welch T-201)

LITTLE CLIPPER: (Godfrey W & A) MDB

\$15.00

Violet blue standards over rounded dark purple falls highlighted by fat white beards and white feather markings around the hafts. It grows extremely well in California, showing a tolerance for warmer climates, as well as being a rapid increaser in its home state of Massachusetts. With luminata siblings, it should be a significant contributor to any breeder's gene pool. Dilemma X self

VERITY ANN: (Hutcheson M) SDB

\$15.00

A charming creamy white standard dwarf bearded, elegantly etched with pale violet blue plicata markings around the edges of the standards and falls. Shape is excellent, increase is explosive, and it blossoms well for a long period of time. Gemstar X Altruist

ENCHANTED MOCHA (Schmieder D & B) SDB

\$15.00

What makes this unique is its very distinctive and different colouring, with the faint lavender markings running through the honey apricot standards with a darker cherry mocha spot on the apricot falls set off by bronze red beards, on wildly ruffled blossoms. Pele X Chanted

CATALOGUE \$1 UPON REQUEST

Design Corner

by Carolyn Hawkins, Georgia



ONE OF THE MOST APPRECIATED CLASSES IN A FLOWER SHOW seems to be the Table Designs. They give us inspiration and encouragement to set a beautiful table for special occasions. The choice of dinnerware, tablecloths, napkins, and all of the other components that we see in flower shows spur us on to accomplish something similar.

There are two different kinds of table designs: Functional Tables which provide a table setting for actual food service (with no food provided, of course) and the Exhibition Tables which are not for an actual food service but are used in flower shows and displays, such as in your local china department of a retail store.

The focus of this article will be on the Exhibition Table type of design. This is a snapshot, if you wish, of the items that can be used and developed from this single exhibit type to a fully functional table in your home. Ideas abound with Exhibition Tables and the creative placement of the components is not restricted. Of course the design principles of balance, dominance, contrast, rhythm, proportion and scale are always considered.

These exhibits display dinnerware, crystal, an arrangement, tablecloth, napkins and any other item that might lend itself to the theme. All of these items are also known as components. This type of design is a pleasing effort to combine all of the components, carry out the theme, and enjoy using dishes and tablecloths that have long been put away and only used for a special occasion.

I asked Betty Thompson, Decatur, Georgia, and a National Garden Club, Inc. Master Judge to create the following designs just for the American Iris Society. We will go through each one and it is hoped that as you read this you will wish to include a class of this type in your local flower show for next year. Doug Baird of Dunwoody, Georgia, graciously provided the irises used in all of these photos.

The space allotted is usually one-half of the standard 6' or 8' table, on a pedestal, or some other available area in which to stage such a design. The background is vitally important and should be considered in the staging. The exhibitor can be required to provide a background or the committee can stage these designs where the walls or some other background is neutral and will not distract from the exhibit. A busy background will always detract from any kind of design and is usually one of the first things to consider when organizing your exhibit.

June Wood and Deen Day Smith wrote in their book **"Table Settings for the Flower Show"** the following explanation of Exhibition Table Settings. "Exhibition Table Settings are seen only in flower shows or in displays. They have nothing to do with the actual service of food, and are intended solely as design exercised using creative concepts. Their primary purpose is to show the artistic coordination of the varied components which have been used, and they usually utilize creative staging. These table settings are never groupings of unrelated objects, but always must convey an impression of dining."

They explain that the schedule should not specify what items are to be used but give the staging space allotted to the exhibitor and the type of theme related to the setting such as buffet, informal, reception, formal, tea, etc. The design unit is not a centerpiece, as it does not reside in the center of the table in most cases. Decorative unit or arrangement are alternate terms that might be used.

There are two different Exhibition Table Settings: Type I and Type II. The differences are the way in which the plant materials are used. Type I requires a completed design unit (or arrangement) and Type II usually does not have a completed flower design but has some plant material used in a way to enhance the overall exhibit by using a certain color, texture, size, or form in a way to complete the exhibit and to add interest and balance.

Give the designer freedom to use the components to allow creativity to flow. Get ideas from store displays. The range of choices of china and pottery is abundant and this may be just the inspiration you need to get started.

It is suggested that the exhibit be set up ahead of time to practice the mechanics for safe display of the components. If using Grandma's priceless dishes, you must accept the possibility that accidents happen. Mechanics well handled can anchor the components in a manner so they will not fall over or be damaged. Using expensive flatware is

discouraged for obvious reasons.

The Exhibition Table Type I is shown in Photos 1 and 2. This type of exhibit uses components combined with a decorative unit of plant materials. In Photo 1 the color brown is dominant, with gold being the subordinate color choice. The place mats are located to unify the overall exhibit. The German Pretzel beer stein provides the beverage container, with the brown pottery dish and brown napkin. Notice the minor detail where the pewter napkin ring and the top of the beer stein match. The container for the design unit is a metal candle mold with dried *Aspidistra* leaves and the Iris RADIANT ENERGY completing the exhibit.


Photo 2 demonstrates totally different staging for the Exhibition Table Type I. The wooden frames are positioned to display the china, beverage container (with a napkin inside) and an additional component of a dinner bell. The copper tubing circles around PVC tubular containers and draws the eye up and through the exhibit. *Hedera helix* foliage (Ivy) is used with the Iris LADY FRIEND. This color choice of napkins, iris and the design on the plates contributes to unification of the exhibit.

Exhibition Tables Type II are shown in Photos 3 and 4. This design type has only a minimum of plant material and no completed decorative unit.

In Photo 3 a large black frame provides the staging with a placemat and napkin draped over the top, incorporating the frame. The Iris RADIANT ENERGY is used again in this exhibit and is strategically placed to pick up the colors in the plates. Also, the colors of the placemat and napkins relate to the orange colors in the dinnerware. Candles are always permitted, and do not need to be charred to represent burning. It is not recommended that candles be lit for safety reasons, but they can add interest and a harmonious color component to an exhibit.

Photo 4 also incorporates a frame with the napkin tied on one side. The copper coil supports an iris and a cup and creates rhythm all through the design. The top plate has a wood pattern finish that matches the coaster at the bottom. The colors are repeated throughout the exhibit, and the Iris SWEDISH MODERN blends well with the other components. Fasciated willow provides additional rhythm with its interesting curves.

As you look at these Exhibition Tables you should see a flow throughout the entire exhibit, causing the eye to move from one area to another. This is the desired end result. The creativity used in the placement of the goblets, plates, napkins and other components will provide some ideas for you to use as you add these classes to your flower show schedules.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 7329 Kendel Ct., Jonesboro, GA 30236 or at my email: crh9999@aol.com
Carolyn Hawkins, AIS Judge and Plant Society Liaison, National Garden Clubs, Inc. 

Adopt a Library

by Anner Whitehead

Affiliates and Regions interested in new ways to encourage wider interest in irises and the American Iris Society may wish to consider providing a local library with an AIS membership so that the *Bulletin* will be available to all patrons.

Public libraries, academic libraries, rural libraries, and libraries at botanical institutions are often under-funded and may welcome your group's ongoing commitment to providing the *Bulletin*. The expense is small in comparison to the potential benefits to the public, especially when paid at the triennial level.

Why not ask the serials acquisition librarian at a library or horticultural institution near you if they will accept such a gift? Contributing a copy of the authoritative classic AIS publication *The World of Irises* to the library's reference collection would be an especially worthwhile gesture on the part of the sponsor.

By adopting a library your group can bring the latest and best information about irises to gardeners and students, and enhance public awareness of AIS and the many benefits of membership.

Mission Accomplished

by Sara Marley, New York State

THE FOLLOWING EVENTS WERE INITIATED A COUPLE OF YEARS ago when the AIS Board directed Historian Larry Harder to start sending items in his possession to the AIS Library. Keith McNames, AIS Librarian, had finished with the cataloging of items housed in the facility at Silverton, OR.

Larry had sent several boxes and was in the process of getting more ready to mail when he became ill in June of 2001. He underwent surgeries and other procedures to no avail and succumbed on September 10th.

I had talked with Larry the previous May at the National Convention in Maryland and knew that there was a lot of "stuff" still in his possession. During his illness, I was in contact with his family and relayed medical information to members of the Board. After Larry's death, I continued as the liaison between the Board and the family.

Mrs. Harder (Larry's mom) and sister Nancy were glad that I was able to answer their questions concerning Larry's interests with AIS and monies that had been donated in his memory. In the course of conversations, the subject of the AIS artifacts was broached. They indicated that there were several (20) boxes that Larry had earmarked for AIS and wondered what to do with them. I mentioned that it might be possible for someone from the society to come to their place in Nebraska and get the boxes out of their way. I passed this information along to Clarence Mahan and he in turn contacted some folks in Nebraska, but nobody was able to take responsibility for acquiring the AIS materials.

My husband Walter is always ready to travel, so he suggested that we go to Nebraska, help gather things up, and transport whatever boxes there were to Oregon. I called Clarence and gave him our ideas; he in

turn proposed the ideas to the Board, and they agreed to them. Within a few days, plans were completed with the Harder family and ourselves.

Considering what had to be done before we left on such a long trip, the weather, distance to travel, etc., we decided that we would leave immediately after the AIS Fall Board Meeting that was being held in Greensboro, NC. The Harders intimated that there would be 40-50 boxes to transport, and Walter prepared the truck accordingly.

The Board meeting usually lasts until Sunday morning, but good fortune prevailed and the last session ended Saturday evening. Walter and I were "on the road again" by 8:30 am on Sunday, heading west toward Knoxville, TN. The weather was perfect and traffic was light until about 25 miles east of Knoxville. Ahead of us, there appeared a double line of motorcyclists, traveling in the outside lane and stretched as far as we could see. As we passed each exit, more and more cyclists were getting on the 4-lane, with state police directing their traffic pattern. They were moving at a slower pace than we were. We and other vehicular traffic were directed to the inner lane. As we approached the outskirts of Knoxville, the overpasses were crowded with sightseers who had cameras of all types, documenting the event. It was quite a sight! The riders were raising money for the tragic 9/11 victims. I dare say there were over five hundred cycles that were participating in the event.

We made good time, and arrived in Ponca, NE, on Tuesday. Ponca is a small, quiet village that is a jumping-off place for pheasant hunters during the fall hunting season. We contacted the Harders and made arrangements to be at their house by 9:00 the next morning.

Another clear day was in the offing as we pulled up to the Harder home and were greeted by Nancy and her brother. Walter and they went right to work and proceeded to cart the boxes up the steps from the basement and out to the truck. They were done by 11:00, after squeezing in the last 3 boxes -- along with luggage, cooler, etc. -- into the cab behind the seats. The truck body was FULL. We drive a '95 F150 Ford "camper special", with heavy-duty helper springs. For the duration of the trip to Oregon, Walter had to unload and reload 4 boxes each time we had to stop at a gas station!

We said our good-byes and started westward again. We were averaging 450-500 miles a day. Fair weather held until we got to Rawlins, WY. The next morning, as we ascended the Rockies and the Continental Divide, we experienced freezing mist on the windshield at the higher elevations. We weren't concerned about slippery roads, just

that the visibility was BAD. With the load we had in the truck (mud flaps were almost touching the ground), we knew we had more than enough weight. 100+ miles later we entered Utah and made a clear run up the valley via I-84 to Burley, ID. After a good night's rest, we were on our way by 7:30 am and reached our son Carl's house in Pendleton, OR, at 4:30 pm. Just one more leg of our journey to go!

Keith McNames, Terry Aitken, and others in the Portland area were contacted. Keith was having minor surgery on Monday, so we went down to Salem on Tuesday. Keith had Paul Black, Tom Johnson and Keith Keppel in the ready to help unload the truck in Keith's shed. Keith McNames supervised, I operated the camera, and the others made quick work of unloading onto pallets. When the final count was tallied, we had transported 73 boxes, from Ponca, NE, to Salem, OR. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! 3124 miles from Greensboro, NC, to Salem, OR.

There was enough daylight left after the truck was unloaded, so we walked through Keith's garden, and then followed Paul and Tom to their place and toured their garden. I can easily visualize how spectacular they must be at bloom-time! After a nice dinner at Paul & Tom's favorite restaurant, we returned to Keith McNames' house and spent the night with him.


A gracious host even though he was in some pain, Keith took us to the AIS Library the next day for a tour of those facilities. Keith is to be commended for his organization and use of limited space. You ask for an item and he can tell you within seconds whether it is in inventory. While there, good friend Dave Silverberg appeared, as did Keith Keppel. We were impressed... even though the 'Library' is in the basement of Silverton Town Hall.

Following Keith Keppel to his place, we toured the Registrar's office and some of the different steps that are taken to keep the registration of irises in order. It is an exact and time-consuming procedure. There again, Keith can find a particular item in a very short time with the filing system he uses. He keeps reminding the Board that he was scheduled to do the registrar's job for just a short time (going on seven years now). Board members, what do you consider a SHORT TIME?!

Later that day, we traveled into Portland and stopped at Bennett Jones' place. It is amazing the number of introductions he and Evelyn have produced from such a small area, less than 1/2 acre. Bruce Filardi, our AIS Bulletin Editor, met us at Bennett's, and then the four of us

trekked to Terry and Barbara Aitken's in nearby Vancouver, WA. By the time we arrived at the Aitkens', it was raining and was quite muddy in the garden. We were invited to view the orchids in the greenhouse in lieu of a garden tour. Fantastic!

Before and after dinner, we all reviewed some of the office procedures that I as Secretary and Jay Hudson as Treasurer need to keep the financial picture of AIS in order. With Terry as the new President and Bruce as the new Bulletin Editor, it was enlightening for all. Since the end of November, John and Kay Ludi have become the Storefront Managers due to the unexpected illness of Nancy Pocklington, so our run-thru of office procedures was put to immediate use by Terry and myself.

Time to start back to New York State, with more than 3000 miles to travel. Leaving the Aitkens' the next day, we headed back to Pendleton to be with our son. We cooked an early Thanksgiving dinner for him and continued east to Pocatello, ID, to visit Walter's cousins. We had to stay longer than anticipated because of snowy conditions in the passes. The worst part of the return trip was in southwestern Wyoming again, where we encountered snow-packed icy conditions. When the "big boys" travel at 40 mph, you had better slow down too! After that it was clear sailing to our friends in Normal, IL. The last overnighiter was with friends in western NY, arriving home on December 5th, 2001, with 6865 miles logged. No mishaps were encountered; we feel we were truly blessed. Mission Accomplished! 

www.theirisfarm.com

Memphis 2002

by Robert Strohman, Kentucky

Editor's Note: The October issue of the Bulletin will contain in-depth reports on the gardens visited at National this year. Mr. Strohman kindly agreed to do an "overview" to whet our appetite!



HE 2002 AIS CONVENTION IN MEMPHIS WAS APPROPRIATELY named "The Blues... and Other Colors" in homage to the birthplace of the blues.

Convention Chair Elke Longworth, the Memphis Area Iris Society, and dozens of volunteers planned and produced a terrific event, and to try thanking everyone involved would result in someone's name being omitted. Let it be said that all of us who traveled to Memphis were impressed by what we found there and appreciated the results of all the hard work.

On the final night, before delivering the invocation at the Awards Banquet, Dr. Roy Epperson quoted from a prayer once offered by his young grandson: "Lord, thank you for this food. I hope I like it." That is probably the prayer of every iris conventioneer *en route* every year! Apprehension of the imminent unknown is only natural. No one needed worry, for the Memphis gathering proved to be a good one.

It was, as always, a time for renewing old acquaintances and making new friends, a time for finishing that conversation interrupted a year earlier, for exploring the sights of an unfamiliar city, and for seeing in bloom the current and future superstars of irisdom.

For me it was a time for talking with Carla Lankow and continuing our discussion of *I. formosana*. It was a time for getting reacquainted with LaRue and Carl Boswell, for sharing a bus once more with Glenn and Susan Grigg while discussing both iris and ice-skating. It was a time for continuing a conversation with Bruce Filardi begun in a crowded Maryland elevator last year. It was a time for my annual Texas hug from Diana Winship. It was a chance to explore downtown

Memphis: Beale Street at a subdued 10 a.m., a trolley ride, lunch

on the banks of the Mississippi River.

Many things were accomplished during the Section meetings: Several sections replenished their coffers via plant auctions; HIPS decided to resume its annual rhizome sale, suspended since the death of Larry Harder; the Dwarf Iris Society established advertising rates for its Newsletter; the Society for Siberian Irises continued plans for its 2003 mini-convention in Canada.

Following two days of Section meetings, all the conventioners' first chance to be together at once was the Welcome Banquet. In the minutes before its start, everyone's attention was focused on a goose sitting on her nest of eggs just outside the ballroom foyer. She then became an object of interest and conversation for the rest of the week.

The meat of the Convention was, of course, the three days of garden tours. Individual garden reviews will appear in the October issue of the *Bulletin*. Goldilocks could have done a great job of reporting on Convention weather! She would have reported the first day as "too cold," the second day as "too hot," and the third day as "just right!" The third day was indeed perfect for viewing iris – sunny, clear, and mild. That day, after touring the beautiful Stone and Hamilton gardens (and meeting Tammy Faye, a rare chicken), we made a return visit to the master planting at the Tennessee Bicentennial Iris Garden, allowing us to see varieties in bloom that hadn't been open two days earlier.

Some favorite guest irises linger in memory that were doing well everywhere:

The perfectly-named SPLASHACATA (Tasco '98), a white-ground plicata splashed with various shades of purple;

Carl Boswell's IB DEVILISH NATURE ('98), a smoky blend of tan, violet, and maroon with extra-long horns held just above its horizontal falls;

BRIDGE IN TIME ('95), Betty Wilkerson's elegant reblooming white self;

George Sutton's blue-blended space-ager BYE BYE BLUES ('97);

Terry Varner's MTB AMONG FRIENDS ('02), a beautiful amoena with dark blue falls edged white;

Oscar Schick's pale pink vision HER PINKNESS ('99);

Joe Ghio's very similar TB's, CONNECTION ('00) and STARRING ('00), both with amazing substance.

Some seedlings that bear watching for the future are:

Charles Bunnell's MTB C39-7, a striking blue-violet bitone;

Earnest Royal's 92-15-2, a very tall and well-branched TB with blooms somewhere between white and palest cream, with just a touch of yellow at the hafts.

It has been the custom in recent years for there to be a competitive show in connection with the Convention, and this year was no different. The West Tennessee Iris Society's show featured many creative and striking artistic arrangements and beautiful horticultural entries. HELLO DARKNESS (Schreiner '92) was chosen Best Specimen.


Some conventioners opted for the organized side-trips; others chose to explore Memphis on their own. I went back downtown to the Pyramid for the fascinating exhibit of art and artifacts from 400 years of the Russian czars. Interestingly, one part of the Kremlin throne room contained a section of wall clearly adorned with *bas-relief* reproductions of iris blooms. I wonder if Graceland (an optional side-trip) included such an iris tie-in!

At the closing-night Awards Banquet most everyone was decked out, as usual, in appropriate attire. There was no end of skirts, blouses, shirts, ties, vests, earrings, and necklaces all bearing the iris motif. But my favorite article of clothing was neither iris-themed nor worn to the banquet. It was Terry Aitken's tee-shirt emblazoned "Stop me before I volunteer." Words to live by!

After dinner came the medals and awards for 2001, then the announcement of the conventioners' two favorites. The President's Cup for most popular Region 7-hybridized variety went to John Pierce's TENNESSEE BICENTENNIAL ('96). Runners-up were Tom Parkhill's MIAH JANE ('01) and Hugh Thurman's MTB MADAM PRESIDENT ('01). Joe Ghio's STARRING ('00) won the Franklin Cook Memorial Cup as favorite out-of-region cultivar. Runners-up were GOLDEN PANTHER (Tasco '00) and SPLASHACATA (Tasco '98).

Perhaps the most warmly-received announcement on that final evening was that the nesting goose's eggs had hatched and the goslings were to be seen following their mother around the hotel grounds.

Following the awards ceremony, through the magic of digital photography, all those at the banquet were treated to a slide show. We saw once more the irises we had admired and ourselves admiring them. The show brought back a flood of memories of the preceding days.

After all, anyone who had thought *en route* "I hope I like it" must surely have concluded. "I certainly did!" – for what was there not to like? 

Attempts to Discover the Cause of Scorch

by *Currier McEwen, Maine*



THE DISEASE KNOWN AS SCORCH HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED in tall bearded and other irises for a great many years but, although several possible pathogens have been postulated, the cause remains in doubt. The diagnosis of any disease of unknown cause demands the existence of features which are sufficiently unique, pronounced, and consistent to warrant the conclusion that it is a distinct entity. In the case of scorch, the features are indeed striking, involving distinct diagnostic characteristics in leaves, rhizomes, and roots as follows:

Those in the leaves are the earliest to be observed and consist of browning ("scorching") of the tips which gradually extends down to the base of the leaves which, however, remain firmly attached to the rhizomes with no evidence of rot there,

The rhizomes remain normal in appearance and consistence with no evidence of rot.

The roots are brown and rotted with only the central string-like strand of fibers and the outer sheath of the roots remaining and normally intervening substance gone. New stubby white roots try to grow but their tips soon show signs of rot and they die also. Occasionally, some new roots attempt to grow the next spring but soon die.

In addition, the disease rarely appears in an adjoining plant. Indeed, one can plant a new iris in the same spot immediately after removal of a severely scorched one with no sterilization of the soil and the new plant often remains normal. Furthermore, the affected plants usually are few and are widely scattered here and there in a large planting.

These features have defined scorch in bearded irises and it has been assumed that a disorder characterized by those same features in other irises is the same disease. The lesions in the leaves are of important early diagnostic help because they are, of course, the only ones that can be

noted while the plant is in the ground. In scorch, the central leaves are first affected and remain firmly attached to the rhizomes. In borer damage, it is also the central leaves that are first affected but they easily tear off showing rotted, often blackened, ends. In botrytis, it is the peripheral leaves that are affected first and they, like those in borer damage, easily tear off and show rotted ends. Some fungal dusting may be seen at the base of a plant with botrytis but never in scorch. No treatment has proved successful in scorch except questionably as noted subsequently in this article.

Although a problem to growers of iris for many years and almost invariably fatal, scorch has caused relatively little concern because the number of affected plants is so small. Then, in 1992, a devastating outbreak of a disease with features diagnosed as due to scorch occurred in a large nursery specializing in irises in northern Germany which in a few years destroyed thousands of irises of all types. This was accompanied by the suspicion (later proved untrue) that perhaps scorch was increasing in the United States also, and in 1994 the American Iris Society's Scientific Committee started the study which we refer to as the AIS Scorch Project.

An advisory group was formed consisting of: John Coble, Chandler Fulton, Robert and Judith Hollingworth, Anna Mae Miller, Kevin Morley, Lorena Reid, David Schmieder, John White, Sharon Whitney, and Currier McEwen, Chairman. In addition to helping guide the project, these horticulturally skilled members provided the specimens of plants with garden diagnoses of scorch along with unaffected neighboring plants for laboratory study. Starting in 1994, the specimens were sent to Bruce Watt at the University of Maine Extension Service at Orono, Maine, to study for fungi and insects as possible causes. His studies did not include culture, and in 1996 when cultures were needed, Professor George W. Hudler of the Department of Plant Pathology at Cornell University and his associates, Sandra Tracy, Research Support Specialist, and Diane N. Karasevicz and Karen Sirois, Extension Associates in the Plant Disease Diagnostic Laboratory there, joined the project to provide those additional studies.

Experience Regarding Suspected Causative Agents

The remainder of this report is devoted to a review of previous articles on the various organisms that have, over the years, been suspected to be the cause of scorch, coupled in each case with results of the current project.

INSECTS

The serious outbreak in 1992 with features suspected to be due to scorch in the German nursery that lead to this project has been mentioned. Laboratory study of affected plants there revealed larvae of a species of flea beetle, *Aphthona nonstriata* (also known as *a. coerulea*) in the roots of the diseased plants. Two insecticides known to be effective against flea beetles were used intensively that year and the next, and the disease subsided dramatically. The sprays have been used annually as preventive measures since then and the incidence of plants with scorch has returned to the usual situation of a few scorched plants here and there in the huge nursery beds.

A possible new insect cause of scorch was proposed by Anne Blanco White in the May 2000 *Newsletter* of the Group for Beardless Irises of the British Iris Society. In replanting a large number of neglected Siberian irises with clay covered roots, the roots were washed very thoroughly and two or more larvae of the "chafer" family were found among the roots of many plants. She hypothesizes that the larvae, hatching in late fall, gradually destroy some of the roots over the winter, causing the start of the scorching of the leaves; but by the time the disease is recognized through the browning of the leaf tips and the plant is dug, the larvae have pupated and the beetles have gone. (Blanco White 2000)

Current Project

Insects and their larvae were carefully looked for by Bruce Watt in the 26 plants with scorch sent to him for study. He found only three: larvae of an unidentified fly in one, bulb mites in another, and wire worms in the third. None was considered significant. Specifically, no flea beetles and no members of the chafer family were identified.

NEMATODES

In 1946, Dr. B.O. Dodge at the New York Botanical Garden reported his observations which had started in 1928 regarding the general experience that his Japanese irises grew well for a few years and then deteriorated and died. There was browning of the leaves and severe damage to the roots. Examination of the roots revealed many nematodes of the lesion type (*Pratylenchus penetrans*) and he concluded that they were the cause of the disorder (Dodge 1946). As a result, I carried out an intensive study of that nematode (McEwen 1978). They were readily found on microscopic examination of every iris of all types

that I received that year from all parts of the United States including California, and from England, Germany, Russia, and Japan. Siberian, Japanese, and bearded irises treated with Ethoprop to kill the nematodes were planted in an experimental bed with sterilized soil. Over a period of three years those plants had cleaner white roots than those in the regular beds in which roots showed some reddish-brown spotting, but amount and quality of growth and bloom appeared to be about the same in both. It was concluded that treatment was unnecessary. This was fortunate since quite clearly any treated, nematode-free plants would be immediately reinfected with *Pratylenchus penetrans* in the gardens to which they were sent.

Current Project

In the current studies, *Pratylenchus penetrans* was found, as before, in all irises studied, normal ones as well as those with scorch. No plants showed evidence of the root knot nematode.

BACTERIA

Bald in 1969 believed a *Pseudomonas* to be the cause of scorch in bearded irises (Bald 1969) but Wadekamper could not confirm this and also was unable to identify any other microorganisms as the cause (Wadekamper 1972).

Current Project

Bruce Watt made no cultures of the plants he studied, but he carefully examined microscopically any that showed features suggesting bacterial soft rot or any other bacterial diseases. He found only one plant among the 26 he examined that exhibited lesions suggesting bacterial soft rot. In that plant bacteria were seen in the roots on microscopic examination. He considered it to be a secondary infection and not significant as a cause of scorch.

Four Siberian and four tall bearded irises with characteristic features of scorch were cultured for bacteria by Karen Sirois at Cornell. *Pseudomonas putida* was identified in one of each type of iris; no pathogen was detected in the other six plants.

MYCOPLASMA-LIKE ORGANISMS

Dr. Richard Sjoland in 1990 by means of electron microscopic examination identified mycoplasma-like organisms (MLOs) in the phloem cells of the nutrient channels in the roots and leaves of bearded

irises with scorch. MLOs are rather similar to bacteria but lack cell walls. Another characteristic is that MLOs exist only in living tissue. Hence they do not spread from one plant to another through air, soil, or water but only by direct contact or living vectors. Sjolund hypothesized that insects such as leaf hoppers (*Cicadellidae*) that have special mouth parts enabling them to pierce the phloem tubes for feeding serve as vectors. This is an attractive idea for it can explain why scorch does not spread to adjacent plants but can appear in others some distance away. (Sjolund, Stoll and Jensen 1990)

Current Project

Dr. Sjolund kindly examined a dozen or more Siberian and Japanese iris plants with scorch that I sent him three years in succession, but in contrast with his previous studies of bearded irises done several years earlier found MLOs in none.

VIRUSES

I know of no previous studies for viruses in iris plants with scorch.

Current Project

In 1992 Japanese iris plants with scorch were examined by the Agdia laboratory for 12 viruses, namely: Alfalfa Mosaic Virus; Cucumber Mosaic Virus; Prunes Necrotic Ringspot Virus; Potato Virus X; Tomato Ringspot Virus; Tobacco Streak Virus; Tobacco Mosaic Virus, common strain; Tobacco Ringspot Virus; Tomato Aspermy Virus; Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus; Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus; and Potyvirus Group. All were tested with double-antibody sandwich enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (DAS ELISA) and all were negative.

FUNGI

In his discussion of scorch in *Garden Irises*, Dimock (1959) reports isolation of several fungi such as *Fusarium*, *Pythium*, and *Rhizoctonia* from roots of affected plants, but none of these organisms was isolated consistently or exclusively, and his attempts to inoculate bearded irises with these fungi and reproduce the disease failed.

Bald, in his study of *Pseudomonas* previously referred to, identified also *Rhizoctonia* in some plants with scorch and speculated that they and perhaps other fungi such as *Fusarium oxysporum* might enhance the likelihood of scorch.

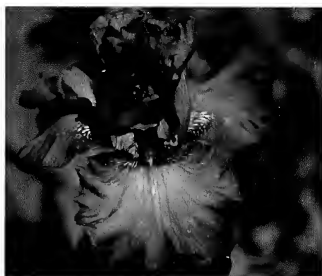
PRESENTING FOR 2002

BROADBAND (Tasco 2002) TB, 35", EM. Seedling # 96-TB-06-02. Pale grape standards; clean white falls with a wide plicata band of dark grape; violet beard, yellow in throat. Ruffled with a heavy sweet fragrance. Strong purple base foliage and 7 to 8 buds complete the high-speed connection. Splashacata X Change of Pace (Please note that parentage and seedling number as listed here are correct; incorrect information was listed in the AIS 2001 R&I booklet).....\$40.00



BROADBAND

SPRING FANTASY (Tasco 2002) TB, 35", ML. Seedling # 96-TB-21-04. Ruffled magenta purple with lilac purple shoulders on the falls, tangerine beard. Great branching and stalks with 7 to 9 buds. Another from our lines going back to Ruffled Goddess. Sudden Impact X Aplomb.\$40.00



SPRING FANTASY

BOLD STATEMENT (Tasco 2002) IB, 24", EM. Seedling # 96-IB-01-03. Lavender-violet standards edged aster violet; bright Naples yellow falls with a faint edge of violet-white; tangerine beard tipped aster violet, up to 4 buds. Lightly ruffled with a slight sweet fragrance, probably a new color combination in this class. Well liked by both the public and visiting judges. Alpine Journey X Vavoom.....\$25.00



BOLD STATEMENT

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Current Project

Starting in 1994, Bruce Watt began his examination of plants with the diagnosis of scorch sent to him by our participating expert gardeners for identification of fungi. In the 26 specimens (22 *Iris sibiricae* and 4 *Iris ensatae*) *Rhizoctonia* was identified in the roots of 19 and *Pythium* in 8. Of the latter, *Pythium* alone was identified in one and in the other seven plants *Rhizoctonia* also was found. Eight specimens (all *I. Sibiricae*) were cultured for fungi at Cornell. *Fusarium* was identified in all, *Verticillium* also in two and *Rhizoctonia* also in one. The marked difference in the fungi reported by Bruce Watt and at Cornell are explained at least in part by the different methods of identification. *Rhizoctonia* is readily identified by the visual examination used by Bruce Watt, whereas *Fusarium* is not.

Attempts to Treat Scorched Plants

The dramatic recovery from the severe outbreak of what was considered to be scorch in the Germany nursery following the use of insecticides has been mentioned; and in the article on MLOs in irises with scorch Sjolund and colleagues reported success by heating rhizomes at 104 F (40 Celsius) for three or four days. A third report of successful treatment is that of Mark Dienstbach, using the antibiotic Agriprep (Dienstbach 1992). In contrast, most articles report lack of success in treatment.

We made one attempt to repeat Sjolund's use of heat for treatment. With the help of Sue Ross in the microbiological laboratory of the Mid-Coast Hospital in Brunswick, Maine, one bearded iris with scorch was kept at a temperature of 104 F (40 C) for three days. The disease continued after planting and when next examined two months later, the plant was dead, as were untreated tall bearded irises with scorch which were planted as controls.

For trial of treatment with antifungal agents, a combination of thiophanate-methyl (especially for *Rhizoctonia* and *Fusarium*) and metalaxyl (especially for *Pythium* and *Phytophthora*) was used. Five Siberian irises and one Japanese iris with mild to moderately advanced scorch were soaked in the fungicidal mixture for 18 hours and were then planted in the special bed prepared for them. Other untreated plants with scorch were planted as controls. In contrast to the controls, the treated plants received the fungicidal solution instead of water when watering was needed for the next two weeks. The disease continued similarly in all the treated plants and untreated controls, and all were

completely dead within two months.

Similar attempts to treat scorched irises were carried out with the antibiotic Agri-mycin. One Siberian iris with advanced and two with moderately advanced scorch were divided. One piece of each was planted as an untreated control and the other was treated by soaking in Agri-mycin prior to planting. This treatment also failed; all the treated plants and untreated controls died.

Attempts to Induce Scorch by Inoculation of Healthy Plants

As already noted, Beard (1969) reported the isolation of a strain of *Pseudomonas* from bearded irises with scorch. In two sets of trials done several years apart he used those cultures to inoculate healthy bearded irises. Symptoms developed in both sets of plants but the features in the later set were more pronounced. Between the two sets his stock of irises became infected with *Rhizoctonia* and he wondered whether the fungus might augment the pathogenicity of *Pseudomonas*.

Wadekamper (1972) repeated Bald's experiments but could not confirm them. In several attempts to transmit scorch to healthy irises, he inoculated them with fungi and bacteria isolated from plants with scorch but produced no positive results.

Current Project

Our colleagues at Cornell not only did cultures for fungi and bacteria on the specimens with scorch but also used pure cultures of *Fusarium*, *Rhizoctonia*, and *Pseudomonas* thus obtained to inoculate healthy control Siberians, Japanese, and bearded irises. The healthy plants were prepared for inoculation by injuring the roots by rubbing them with wooden spatulas and stabbing the roots, rhizomes and leaves with large hypodermic needles attached to syringes containing the culture. The plants were then soaked in the culture emulsion for half an hour and planted. The control plants were similarly injured with the spatulas and stabbing with syringes containing sterile water, and were soaked merely in water before planting. All six inoculated plants, like the three controls, recovered promptly from their injuries and have grown normally for more than two years with no symptoms of scorch or other sickness.

Summary and Conclusion

It is hard to accept the fact that in spite of the six years of serious efforts to determine the cause of scorch, uncertainties remain. There are



I. cristata Eco White Angel



I. ruthenica red form



I. koreana



I. cristata Little Jay

Iris for Shade

see page 59 for related story

I. verna



I. odaesanensis





Photo 1



All photos: Corbis Outlines

Photo 2

Design Corner

see page 17 for related story

Designs by Betty Thompson; Decatur, Georgia

Photo 3

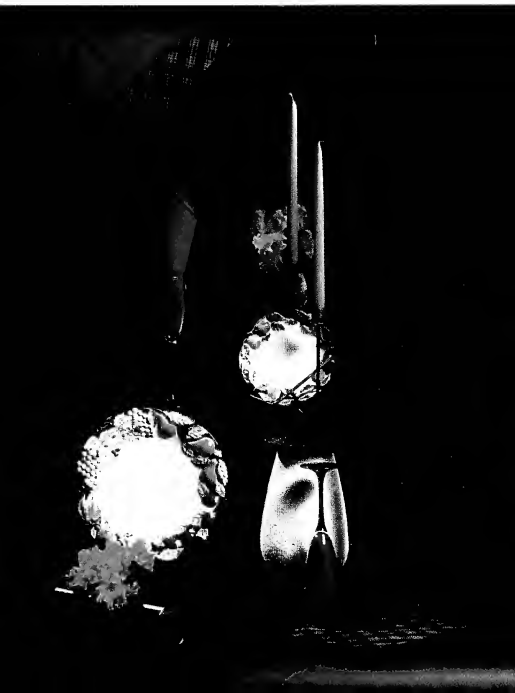


Photo 4



uncertainties even about the serious outbreak in the German nursery that launched the studies because, although the symptoms in the diseased plants were considered diagnostic of scorch by that German gardener, that outbreak differed markedly from the usual experiences with scorch in being a disease that spread from one plant to another and destroyed entire nursery beds. In that disaster, an insect, *Aphthona nonstriata*, was identified that has not been discovered in the usual sporadic occurrence of scorch, and that outbreak subsided following intensive sprays with appropriate insecticides.

Other microorganisms such as fungi, bacteria, nematodes, and MLOs thought to be the cause in previous studies have not been identified in the current project or have been considered to be insignificant or causal agents or of very doubtful significance. For example, the fungi Bruce Watt and the Cornell group have identified all are naturally present in the soil and in healthy control plants. Furthermore, healthy plants inoculated with those microorganisms remained free of disease.

The suggestion of Anne Blanco White that the root damage is caused by larvae which have pupated and flown away as beetles by the time the diagnosis of scorch is suspected and the plant is dug and examined remains attractive but unproven. Bruce Watt thinks it unlikely since the plants he examined included ones studied too early for the pupation to have occurred, yet he found no larvae. (Watt 2001)

What kind of tissue damage might cause scorch? An experiment by Chandler Fulton indicates that any insult to a plant which severely damages the ability of the leaves to synthesize proteins, the building blocks of life, can produce scorch-like symptoms. The experiment involved treating iris foliage with an inhibitor that blocks the synthesis of proteins by the plant cells. This inhibitor, called cycloheximide, used to be applied to potatoes to prevent their sprouting, until it was banned because the inhibitor blocks protein synthesis in people too. The leaves of 28-chromosome Siberian irises, cut and placed in water, remain green and turgid for well over ten days, with only the tips of the leaves turning brown. As those of us who frequently handle these plants know, iris foliage does not show stress quickly. When similar leaves were placed in a solution of cycloheximide in water (at 15 mg/ml), the foliage became brown and twisted, progressing from the top down, so that after a week the leaves were brown. Anything, such as a chemical treatment or an infection caused by bacteria or fungi, perhaps accompanied by production of toxins, could similarly block protein synthesis and thus

produce scorch-like symptoms. (Fulton, C. 2001)

In conclusion, we suggest that scorch may be a symptom complex that can result from a number of different causes: biological, chemical, mechanical, nutritional or genetic, that can destroy roots of irises and block the synthesis of proteins without affecting the rhizomes.

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Photos: Jeanne Campbell

Dresby Memorial Gardens





All Photos: Jerry Allen

28 V-4



U-110



V-3



V12

Ernst Seedlings

See story page 55

V17



Whispering Spirits



Iris Ensata x Sibirica Hybrids?: **A European Perspective**

by Tomas Tamberg, Berlin, Germany

S

INCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE ARTICLES BY CHRISTY Hensler and Sam Norris in recent issues of the *AIS Bulletin*, concerning this new hybrid class, my thinking is divided between extreme skepticism on one hand and a kind of fascination on the other. Let me first describe my reasons for skepticism:

Having produced quite a lot of unusual iris hybrids myself, I cannot immediately dismiss the possibility of a cross of *I. ensata* x *I. sibirica*, leading to plants with $2n=26$ chromosomes. Even the fact that ten controlled crosses of this type (five in each direction) in my garden did not yield a single seed in 2001, does not prove that the cross is impossible; with other hybrid classes I have pollinated up to 20 flowers, resulting in only one single seed.

However, with all the interspecific and interserial crosses I have successfully performed, I have never obtained hybrid plants which were more or less identical to one of the parent plants. The experience of Harald Mathes, who also has made a large number of interspecific and interserial crosses (in his case with bearded irises), is exactly the same.

Furthermore, hybrids with unbalanced chromosome numbers are normally sterile, because in the process of forming gametes (when the chromosome number is reduced from $2n$ to $1n$), two of the 14 *Sibirica* chromosomes do not find a partner among the 12 *Ensata* chromosomes. Actually, I should say "at least two chromosomes", because it is highly unlikely that all the remaining 12 *Sibirica* chromosomes find analogues among the 12 *Ensata* chromosomes across the serial borderline. The reported high fertility of Ms. Hensler's F1 hybrids does not fit this pattern.

The most confusing aspect in the whole picture is the fact that the F1 seedlings look either like pure *Ensatas* or like pure *Sibiricas*. We know from interspecific crosses that the intermediate character of a

hybrid is not always in the precise middle between the two parents, but can be shifted to one side according to the degree of dominance of one of the species. The best-known example is *Iris pseudacorus*, which is able, especially in F2 and F3 hybrids, to show a near 100% dominance. However, there must be some skepticism when a cross results in a large percentage of plants which show complete dominance of one parent and the remainder display complete dominance of the other parent. Even when the Ensata-like F1 hybrid INTAGLIO is crossed back to the Sibirica SEA SHADOWS, one of the resulting F2 hybrids looks like a pure Ensata. According to my understanding of genetics, this cross should result in a $3/4$ Sibirica - $1/4$ Ensata hybrid with pronounced Sibirica characteristics.

I have discussed this topic with Dr. Ingo Schubert from the Gatersleben Institute for Plant Genetics in Germany, and he indicated that the whole picture could not be explained on the basis of any known mechanism of Mendelian or non-Mendelian inheritance. He felt that it must either be an error or something completely new. He did not rule out the possibility of something totally new... and this is the reason why I am fascinated with this subject.

Dr. Schubert recommends the following procedures to establish certainty:

The chromosome counts should be repeated until the results are without doubt.

If the chromosome count for the Ensata-like F1 hybrids is $2n=24$ and the count for the Sibirica-like F1 hybrids is $2n=28$, then the probability is very high that they are not actually the result of an Ensata-Sibirica cross.

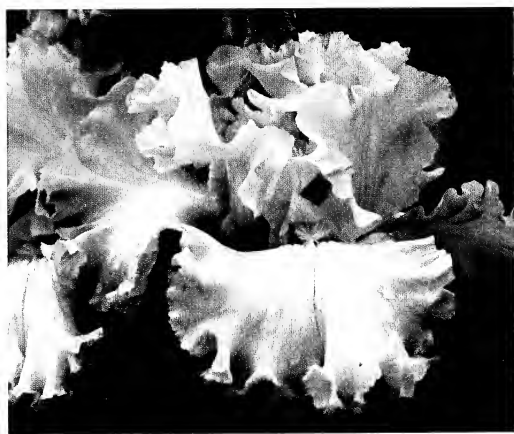
If the chromosome count for both groups is confirmed to be $2n=26$, then a more intensive type of research, based on DNA comparison and in vitro hybridization, should be performed, in order to demonstrate the presence of genetic material from both parents in the two hybrid groups. In order to do this, the laboratory would need plant material from both hybrid groups and from the parent plants.

The institute in Gatersleben performs this type of analysis quite often with plant material of claimed hybrid character, mainly of agricultural plants. Dr. Schubert estimates that the cost of such a project would be the equivalent of a researcher's salary for four months.

Let me finally list some points which make it difficult to think and/or act in a fully scientific way:



All Photos: Terry Aikten



Keppel Seedlings

See story page 55

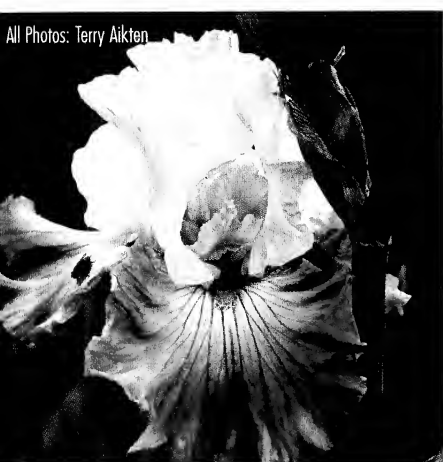
Photos clockwise from upper left: 95-15B, 96-61,
92-102 G, 96-47 B, 97-51 A



GG 262A



HH1 888A



JJ 114-1



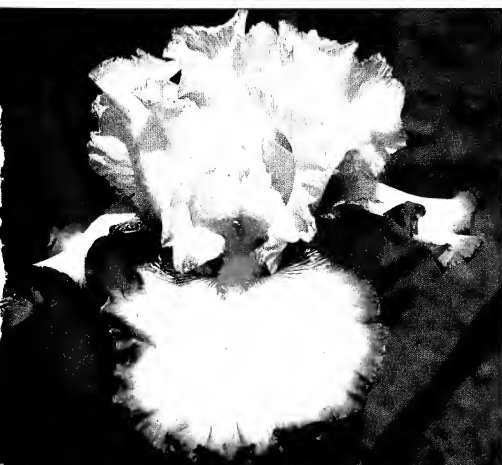
JJ 1747A

Schreiner Seedlings

See story page 55

KK 715-1

KK 118A




The parent plants are of uncertain origin. They were supposed to be Siberians, but partially proved to be Ensatas. Chromosome numbers and hybrid status are unknown.

The flowers of the parent Ensatas were not stripped in an early stage of bud opening. For a fully controlled cross, all falls, standards and stamens should be removed while the stamens are still closed.

The two different Ensatas do not appear to have been tracked separately (at least judging by what appears in the articles). Therefore, their progeny cannot be followed individually.

At least one of the parent plants has been lost.

The percentages of Sibirica-like and Ensata-like seedlings among the F1 generation have not been reported.

The Ensata-type plants are described by Christy Hensler and others as very vigorous, and after careful testing they may even prove to be a replacement for Max Steiger's lost CaRe-strain of lime-resistant Japanese irises. Regardless of the enormous interest and skepticism these plants have generated, gardeners will be happy to find vigorous and undemanding garden plants with more or less full Ensata-like appearance. 

Jobe's Little Bit of Heaven

Wayne & Leslie Jobe' • 2631 Holland Dr., Owensboro, KY 42303

2002 Tall Bearded Introductions

BEE JOBE' (L.Jobe') TB 28", M.&RE. S. Lightly ruffled pale lavender, lavender midrib; F. Lightly ruffled lavender. Beard yellow tipped light violet. Pale lavender area around beard. \$45

ROBERTA DAVIS (L.Jobe') TB 30", E,M&RE S. Lightly ruffled light pink; F. Lightly ruffled light peach with pale pink on outer edge. Beard bright Tangerine. \$45

The Rainbow on the Hill

The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens

by Deborah Walker Michelsen

W

HO COULD HAVE PREDICTED THAT THE FLOWER NAMED after the Goddess of the Rainbow would continue to capture the imaginations of iris enthusiasts and hybridizers across the globe for centuries? The iris is a regal flower in any color. But the fascination with irises lies in their beauty found in a range of colors and color combinations. Iris fanciers were creating new and exciting varieties well before The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens of Montclair were named in memory of former resident Frank H. Presby, horticulturist, conservationist and one of the five organizers of the American Iris Society (AIS) founded on January 20, 1920, and its first treasurer.

There have been many people who have contributed to the achievements of The Gardens allowing them to flourish and reach their major milestone of 75 years of age.

The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens are located in Mountainside Park, Upper Montclair, New Jersey, on land that was originally part of the Dittig farm, bought in 1853 for \$600 at a sheriff's auction by George Adam Dittig, a widowed émigré from Bremen, Germany. Frederick, one of his sons, and his wife, Elizabeth Wold, followed George to a sandstone house on the property at 474 Upper Mountain Avenue adjacent to what is now The Gardens. (The sandstone house was demolished before W.W.I.) The farm of 42 acres was successful, and a lovely Victorian house with Second Empire elements and a distinctive patterned slate mansard roof was built by Frederick around 1858 to accommodate his growing family which eventually included 12 children. This is now Presby's headquarters.

By 1918, major portions of the farmland had been sold to developers when Frederick Walther and his wife, Barbara Speers Walther, moved into the farmhouse with their three children. The

Photo: Marley



Cross-country delivery to the AIS Library (See accompanying story page 21)

Carole Breedlove instructs the Convention Goose (See accompanying story page 25)

Photo: Arley

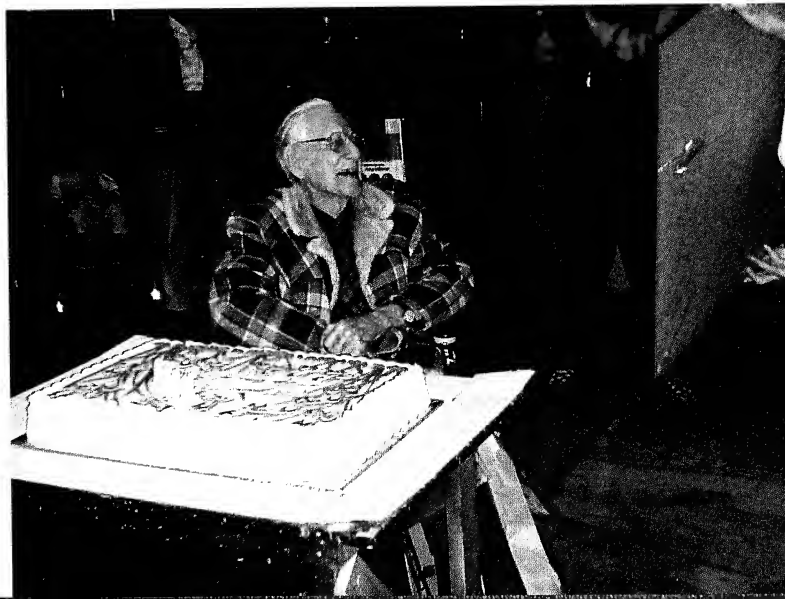


Briana Hargett with FFA plaque.



AFS Members in Action

Currier McEwen
celebrates 100th
birthday



Walthers soon recognized the need to keep the land north and west of their property in its natural state. In 1921 the North End Community Club, a men's club, endorsed the Walthers' idea of securing the land for a town park. They elicited help from community activists to plead their case before the Montclair Commissioners to purchase 33 acres for \$81,250. At first, the town commissioners strongly resisted the idea of a park; only after a petition of 5000 signatures was collected would they reconsider the plan. A successful campaign and a positive vote on a town-wide referendum in 1921 secured the land. A resolution for the purchase was passed on February 14, 1922. Thus, the last large portion of undeveloped land in Montclair was preserved - land that would be available for the world-famous Iris Gardens to come.

Two miles south of the Walthers' home on Upper Mountain Avenue, Frank Presby lived with his wife and two daughters. At an early age young Frank developed a love for nature from his uncle who owned a nursery in Flushing, New York. Presby became a cultured gentleman, an avid collector of antiques, paintings, prints and Chinese porcelains. A director of the Bank of Montclair, vice-president of the New Jersey Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, he was also an advocate for founding a fine arts museum in Montclair and became the Secretary-Treasurer of The Montclair Art Museum Board.

An advocate for a park system in Essex County, Presby also wanted to line the streets of Montclair with shade trees. He donated 250 varieties of lilacs to Montclair's Nishuane Park. (Unfortunately, over time many died from neglect.) He was instrumental in starting the first two test gardens of the AIS - one at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the other at the New York Botanical Garden.

Clearly, The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens were dedicated to a man who had worked hard throughout his life to make Montclair a better place in which to live. He was involved in the acquisition of land on the "mountainside" in Montclair. After his death in 1924, it seemed fitting that The Gardens to be named in his honor would be placed in one of the parks for which he had so long been a devoted advocate. The Board of Directors at the Montclair Art Museum sent Miss Katherine Innis, Curator, to the Town Commissioners to request establishment of an iris garden in Montclair in memory of Frank Presby. Indeed, once the land was so designated, townspeople and Presby's family answered the call for donations of rhizomes from their own gardens to be planted in the form of a triangle, still present in The Gardens today.

Because the Commissioners wanted to ensure the success of the Iris Gardens, Mrs. Walther was asked and accepted the position of Chairman of the Citizens Committee (a position she held for fifty years until her death on June 22, 1977), and later was named Curator. Mrs. Walther took her new position very seriously and realized that she needed to learn more about the genus Iris; she enlisted the help of Mr. H. Sass, a famous hybridizer. The town supplied labor and materials for The Gardens and the Citizens Committee became responsible for the management of The Gardens. They were also greatly helped by members of the Garden Club of Montclair who from the beginning gave money to secure new irises each year. Jennie Bonsal was one of the earliest supporters. She used her considerable skills to organize the iris collection into card catalogues. These cards became the basis for the bed books that today contain pertinent information about each iris variety and its location. These books continue to be updated every year.

The Citizens Committee was incorporated in March of 1963 and raised \$75,000 needed to purchase the Walther property in 1977. The house then became the official headquarters for The Citizens Committee of The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens of Montclair, Inc.

In the early years, as more irises were donated or bought, space became a problem. Mrs. Walther sought the advice of Dr. John A. Wister, Harvard University landscape architect, first President of the AIS and a friend of the Presbys. He designed the lovely gardens that curve from the north and west apexes of the original triangle beds. Through his AIS contacts, irises were donated from all over the country. Wister gave many of the irises he had collected in Europe during and after W.W.I. for his personal use. He encouraged Mrs. Walther to write to leading hybridizers who had known Frank Presby to persuade them to donate the newest and best hybrids of the day to the developing gardens. We are delighted and grateful that hybridizers continue this tradition to this day. In 1952, at our 25th anniversary address, Dr. Wister said, "It is my hope that the Park Commissioners of Montclair will continue to realize the importance to the community of a garden of this kind."

The Gardens have been improving over the last few years. Most recently, a sprinkler system was installed, making easier the care of newly planted beds and lawns. A dry creek bed was restored along the spine of The Gardens, and two handsome bridges were built to cross it. Specimen trees have been planted west of the creek bed as well as

*Franklin
Cook
Memorial
Cup
Runners-Up
2002*

GOLDEN PANTHER
(Tasco '00)

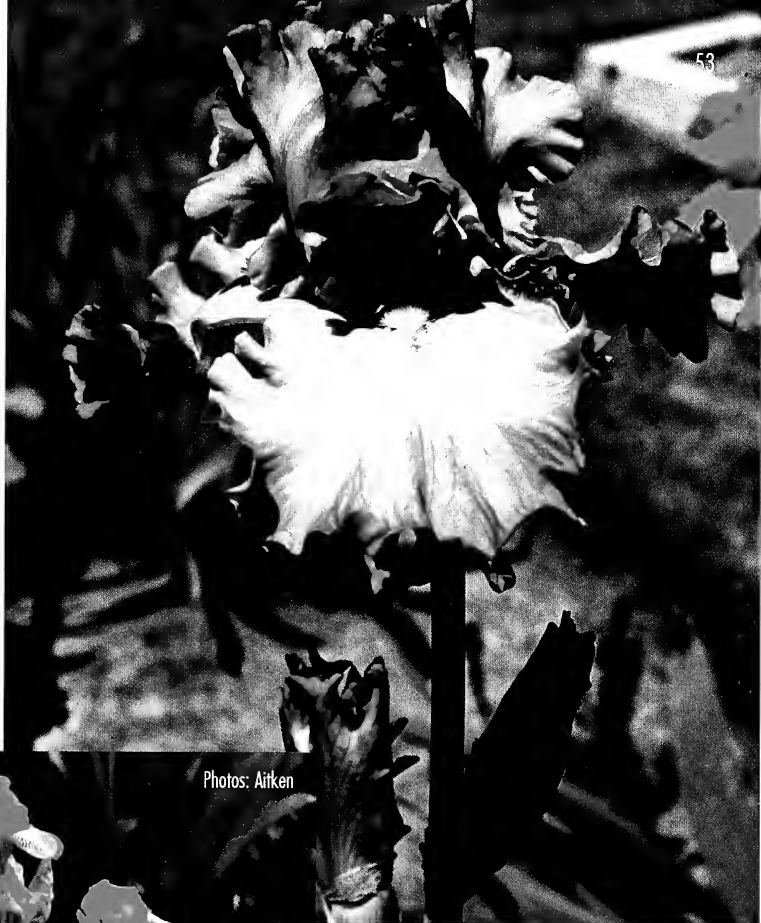


Photo: Aitken

Photo: Filardi



SPLASHACATA
(Tasco '98)



Photos: Aitken




MAIA JANE
(Parkhill '01)

*President's
Cup
Runners-Up
2002*

MADAM PRESIDENT
(MTB-Thurman '01)

various grasses around the creek. Most importantly, Siberian, Louisiana and Japanese irises are being planted in and on the sides of the creek. With the advice of Jonathan Forsell, Senior Agricultural Agent of Essex County, New Jersey, and a Presby Trustee, The Gardens are now lightly mulched with ground cedar bark. The mulch reduces intrusion of weeds, reduces pests and conserves water. Thankfully, Forsell's program of using beneficial nematodes has kept the iris borer population under control. In both cases, an organic approach has been found better than chemicals tried first.

The future offers much promise as we develop a database that will hold digitized photographs of all of the collection and pertinent information about each iris variety. Much of the information will be available to the public via our website. This is a collaborative project with Montclair State University's Business School. The data will be invaluable for accuracy, maintaining the integrity of our collection and labeling, as well as for research. New durable, weather-resistant labels have been generated from the database. The care of The Gardens has improved with part-time paid personnel: a Garden Superintendent, a Garden Manager, an Office Manager, and weeders, together with a group of volunteers who continue to document the collection during the bloom season mid-May to early June. Other volunteers oversee the important organization of these living historic gardens. We also have an education program working with the local schools.

The Bloom Season is always wonderful and inspires us to work toward our century milestone at Presby. The Gardens attract many artists and photographers as well as residents from the tri-state area [New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania] and beyond. We average about 5000 visitors each year from over 35 states and 25 countries. As a public and free display garden, we feel we make an appreciated contribution and look forward to preserving this treasure. 

Lost & Found at National Convention

The following articles were found at National: a camera containing family celebration pictures, an iris umbrella, two windbreakers, and a roll-up hat. If one may belong to you, please contact Elke Longsworth (Elke@prodigy.net), who will keep these articles until October, at which time they will be donated to Goodwill.

2001 - A Vintage Year in the Northwest

by Terry Aitken, Washington State



OUR IRIS TOUR OF THE NORTHWEST IS COMPLETE WITHOUT extended visits to Schreiner's, Cooley's, and Keith Keppel's. Each of them grows many thousands of seedlings, and no iris judge can ignore the exceptional selections that these folks are making. I believe that there will always be a place in any irisarian's garden for a superior iris plant that represents a new and interesting color or pattern, or an improvement in plant quality. We are always looking for extended bloom, more vigorous, healthier plants, and that super show stem for displays. I am encouraged by the new plants that I have seen on tour. All is well with the iris world!

A tour of these seedling fields is a bit overwhelming. There are thousands of seedlings in different stages of selection. I have long been fascinated by Schreiner's line of laced whites. LACED COTTON was an early success. Later came QUEEN OF ANGELS, with a bigger stem and much higher bud count. Now I am seeing several laced whites with up to 20 buds!

The tangerine-bearded blue amoenas presently on the market have a tendency to be rather "rough" in pattern. A new Schreiner seedling, JJ-114, represents a major advance in this class. It has a large flower with good substance and proportion and very smoothly applied color, with no haft marks. Orange TBs have made dramatic improvements over the past thirty years. A new and unique color in this class is LOVELY SENORITA (Schreiner '02), a large flower with good proportions. It is bright orange with darker orange falls. Schreiner's has invested a lot of real estate on CONJURATION seedlings. This is a horned iris with exceptional vigor and a stem with four or more branches. Its downside is small flowers with somewhat narrow petals. The seedlings I am seeing to date seem to solve the shortcomings, but the horns have disappeared, such as in #KK715.

We are seeing bigger, brighter and bolder pinks, with much



First Place: DUDE RANCH (Black '00)

Florence Iris Competition

(See related story, page 15)

All photos: Airken

Third Place: ANVIL OF DARKNESS (Innerst '98)



At right: Best Blue, RIVER RUNNER (Ernst '99)

In middle: Best Red, MERLOT (Schreiner '99)

At bottom: Second Place,
HAUT LES VOILES (Cayeux '00)




heavier substance, in all the major gardens. Schreiner's #JJ 1300A is a good example of big, bright pink flowers on a 4-branched stem. Keppel's KITTY KAY for 2002 has incredibly heavy substance as well as excellent color saturation and form. Ernst's #28V-4 is a very smooth orchid pink.

Big changes are on the way with black irises. Probably the blackest iris on the market is MIDNIGHT OIL (Keppel '98). Schreiner's GG 262 has broader falls with lots of ruffles (structure) and great substance. A new direction in black is towards white beards and zonal spots. Schreiner's KK 118-A, if not a finished flower, is a dramatic step in that direction.

Another subgroup virtually unheard of ten years ago is the red bearded blacks. This seems to have evolved from Barry Blyth's WITCH'S WAND (Blyth '88) lines, then stepped up by Joe Ghio and Keith Keppel with blackish bitones such as NIGHT ATTACK (Ghio '93), ROMANTIC EVENING (Ghio '96), and LOCAL COLOR and NIGHT GAME, both Keppel 1996. These pioneering plants have created a ripple effect in the hybridizing community with many good things poised on the horizon – Keppel's #96-61 being a good example. Another variation on this theme is the "tan/black" combination with red beards, with Keppel's #97-51 being a good candidate.

Another pattern causing a lot of interest is coming from Ben Hager's WILD JASMINE. OWYHEE DESERT (Pinkston '97) is the forerunner of this pattern. Rick Ernst at Cooley's Gardens has crossed EDNA'S WISH with WILD JASMINE and is getting a wide array of variations in this pattern, ranging from deep yellow to white ground. Ernst is also harnessing the great talent of Ben Hager using CHASING RAINBOWS (Hager '98) to get variations on that theme. And yet another totally new pattern was lurking among the new Ernst seedlings when I visited last spring: Ernst #V-3, a white iris with a violet band on the standards only. Striking!

Virtually all of these gardens are working on "dark tops", most derived from George Shoop's HAWAIIAN QUEEN. However, on a different tack, we see a series of seedlings from Keith Keppel, out of IN REVERSE, which are blue/purple standards over white falls; some with red beards. Keppel's #95-15 is representative of the type.

These plants represent the tip of the iceberg, with many others in different stages of development. I expect many of these plants will be featured when the next AIS national convention comes to the Portland area in 2006! 

Iris For Shade

by Marty Schafer, Massachusetts



THE GENUS IRIS IS LARGE, WITH SPECIES ADAPTED TO JUST about every condition of soil and climate. Aril species grow in the arid Middle East, *Iris laevigata* and its relatives thrive on pond margins. *Iris prismatica* grows happily in a bog. *Iris pumila* likes high mountains. Most people think of irises as requiring lots of sun to be happy. There are, however, some which do just fine at the edges of forests, and a few grow well under trees.

The queen of the forest for me is low growing *Iris cristata*. It's an eastern U.S. native whose range covers much of the South and Midwest. It grows happily in New England and blooms heavily even under white pines. It thrives in the company of the toughest and most adaptable wild flowers like *Epimedium*, *Primula sieboldii*, and partridge berry. It carries its flowers between 4 and 6 inches high though the flower stem is actually very short. The longer part is the perianth tube, the part of the flower between the ovary and the petals. The flowers range in size between 2 and 4 inches in diameter. For a wild flower *cristata* is quite sophisticated. The standards are held at 45 degrees from the falls which are flaring, except for a little downward curve near the tip. This displays the crests to best advantage. A little bit of ruffling completes the picture.

Iris cristata blooms for 2 to 3 weeks in May and the flowers come in white and palest blue through medium blue-violet to dark purple. The white signal areas of the falls have distinctive cockscomb crests usually splashed with yellow. The signal is outlined with light or dark blue-violet (except in the white forms). The leaves are broad and soft green and don't turn brown until several hard frosts. It's an easy-to-grow perennial with no mortal enemies that becomes a beautiful ground cover with little or no attention. We have found the best time to divide



*Rhapsody
in Rose:
Dinks at
National*





Clockwise from upper left corner:
 ELEGANT GIRL (A.&D. Cadd '00)
 COLOR DREAM (Niswonger '00)
 ANGEL'S DESIRE (V. Christopherson sdg)
 HAPPENSTANCE (Keppel '00)
 HER PINKNESS (Schick '99)
 CELEBRATION SONG (Schreiner '93)
 HUNTER PINK (Stanek '00)
 LEAPS AND BOUNDS (Niswonger '01)
 FRENCH CANCAN (Cayeux '01)
 LADY JANE (Lauer '01)

it is in early April, just as the leaves start to grow. A scissor is handy for cutting the swollen rhizome from the narrow connection with the rest of the plant. After that, a little teasing separates the few thin roots from the ground, and then you just stick the little division back in the ground, perhaps burying it a bit deeper than it was before. It will find its way back to where it wants to be. Some people like to transplant *Iris cristata* in late June or early July just as the new roots are beginning to grow on the rhizome increases. It's almost like taking cuttings. You can either pot them up or put them in the ground. Cut the foliage back by half and keep them lightly watered. There are a few named *cristatas*. Several white (*alba*) forms exist. One has very long falls, one has very large golden signals, and one, 'Eco White Angel' (named but not registered), is perfectly proportioned. There is a very pale blue form called CRISTATA McDONALD (Crissey-McDonald-Borsch'32). There are several medium blue-violet forms – 'Baby Blue' is one of the smallest and shortest, POWDER BLUE GIANT (Norris '97) is one of the largest and blooms mid-season, 'Edgar Anderson' is also large but very early, and VEIN MOUNTAIN (Duvall '85) is the lightest of the mid-blues. 'Shenandoah Skies' and LITTLE JAY (Schafer/Sacks '01) are a little bluer than usual and a little darker. NAVY BLUE GEM (Schafer/Sacks '98), 'Abbey's Violet' and other occasional wild forms are very dark violet. ECO ROYAL RUFFLES (Jacobs '93) is also dark but with tall ornamented crests and bright white signals. Two six-falled (double) *cristatas* have appeared recently. Both are medium blue-violet. One is called 'Judy's Roulette' and the other will soon be named 'Dick Redfield'. Some hybridizing work is being done on *cristatas* right here in Massachusetts. David Schmieder has several wonderful seedlings including one with a large dark signal ring on a medium blue flower. The glory of *I. cristata* is that even though it has small flowers it has so many of them. The pool of color grows ever larger as the years go by.

Closely related to *Iris cristata* is *Iris lacustris*, a native of the northern American Midwest. It's smaller and daintier than *Iris cristata* in plant and flower. It is a charming plant for the rock garden or wild flower garden but probably too small for the general garden. Though it grows naturally in limey soil, it grows and flowers steadily in our garden which is quite acid. *I. lacustris* is perfectly hardy here. It comes in medium blue-violet and white. We have heard of pink-flowered forms seen in the wild by Fred Case (*Trillium* and wild orchid expert), but since this plant is now endangered and protected, we will probably

never see them. We have had good success transplanting in mid-summer, well after bloom.

Another iris of eastern American woodlands is *I. verna*. So far we have seen purple, white and light blue forms. The flowers have bright yellow to orange signals. The display is more restrained than *I. cristata* — a treasure to view close up. The standards are usually erect the first day and more open the second, and the falls are more recurved. The leaves are a beautiful dark glossy green. The plants have been reliable and hardy and mostly winter evergreen. We cut the leaves down in early April, a month before the new flowers appear. They are similar to *Iris cristata* in size and height, but are not closely related. There are recognized two varieties: *Iris verna* var. *smalliana* (named for Mr. Small, not small in size) is more clump forming; and *I. verna* var. *verna* is smaller and stoloniferous.

Iris gracilipes is native to Japan and is a very special plant. It grows on mountains and in woods. The flowers are very small, either in light blue-violet with attractive white signals or in pure white. The flower stems are very slender and branched, from 2 to 6 inches tall. The narrow leaves are soft green and arch gracefully away from the center of the plant. We have found that it may need division often as it throws itself out of the ground after a few years in one place. Perhaps we have not yet found the ideal location. The best clump we have ever seen was a large one in Roy Herold's garden. It was growing in a natural "bowl" in a large rock outcrop in a small amount of soil. We divide *gracilipes* in early spring or summer after flowering. The latter has actually been more successful. When dividing in summer, cut the foliage back by half. Its seed pods are small and hold just a few seeds each. The seed pods almost always empty before we come around to harvest, but we have never seen volunteer seedlings.

Two species that we grow a little away from the trees are members of the Chinenses section, *I. koreana* and *I. odaesanensis*. They come from the mountains of Korea and nearby China. They have been perfectly hardy and happy in our well-drained, acid, sandy loam. They increase slowly into solid clumps and produce more flowers each year. *I. koreana* has bright golden yellow flowers, about two inches across. *I. odaesanensis* is a little smaller, but the flowers are usually clean white though we have one plant with a very pale lavender wash on the flowers that is also lovely. Both species usually have a brown outline around their signal area. Unlike *Iris cristata*, which puts its seed pods almost on the ground,

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Open Letter to Those Who Attended Judges Training in Memphis

by Clarence Mahan, Virginia

During the judges' training program I presented at the national convention in Memphis, I passed out handouts providing brief biographical sketches of the people who have AIS medals named in their honor. One of those write-ups, the one on Eric Nies, had an error.

The last paragraph of that handout on Eric Nies stated: "Even during his lifetime, Nies was recognized as the foremost breeder of spuria irises in the world. Marion Walker took over his seedlings and breeding lines after he died in 1952. One of the Nies cultivars introduced by Walker is DRIFTWOOD, which is chocolate-brown with a gold flush. It won the Nies Award in 1959."

The word "first" is incorrect. DRIFTWOOD won the Eric Nies Medal in 1959, but WADI ZEM ZEM won the first Eric Nies Medal in 1956. I am indebted to our diligent Librarian, Keith McNames, for pointing this out to me.

Several regional editors have indicated they plan to publish the biographical sketches. If you are one of these, please change the Nies write-up to delete the word 'first.' 

IRISES FOR 2003

Calendar

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Iris koreana and *odaesanensis* have stems which hold their flowers and pods 4-8 inches from the ground. They are pretty little plants in bloom, but as the season goes on, the abundant, light green leaves can get unruly. Darrell Probst, who collected these plants, says that in the wild they grow in very spare soil and the leaves are more thrifty. Related to these two are *Iris savatieri* and the tiny *Iris minutoaurea*. Both are bright yellow like *I. koreana*. As we learn more about them, we'll let you know. *Iris ruthenica* is one of the smallest irises but has one of the largest ranges of any iris. It is native to northern Europe, northern and central Asia and China. As a result it has some variation in its growth habits and flower color. As far as we can tell it has two different growth habits. One has flowers very close to the ground early in spring while its new leaves are short. The other has longer foliage with flower stems from 3 to 8 inches. Sometimes the flowers are buried in the foliage and sometimes held above. It is possible that the first form is *I. ruthenica* var. *nana* and the latter *ruthenica* var. *ruthenica*, but the taxonomists are not sure these varieties are distinct. After blooming both types extend their leaves into short attractive grass-like clumps. We have heard there are plants with white flowers and pink flowers, but the colors we've seen are deep blue-violet (GAMLIN BLUE, Gamlin '98), deep purple (seedlings from the Royal Horticulture Society) and red-purple (from several sources). All have white signals of varying sizes. The best thing about *I. ruthenica* is how early it blooms, usually the first rhizomatous iris to open. (The bulbous *reticulatas* are the earliest). *Iris ruthenica* will bloom happily in high shade with close to a half day of sun. We have done some propagating of *I. ruthenica*, mostly in two and a half inch pots. We have had mixed results with spring and summer division so can't recommend timing yet. Seeds have germinated after cold treatment.

One last plant that has been more than a little confusing is *Iris tenuis*. It is a native of a small river basin in Oregon and for a long time was classed with the Pacific Coast Natives like *I. tenax* and *I. douglasiana*. Then botanists noticed that the signal area was different and put it in the crested section with *cristata* and *lacustris*, but it doesn't really have a crest. It seems likely that it will soon be put in the same section as *I. koreana* and *I. odaesanensis*. That would be Chinenses, an interesting place for an American native to land. Wherever it is placed taxonomically, it is a very nice little plant with beautiful flowers and attractive foliage that can take a fair amount of shade. We got ours from the Garden In The Woods in Framingham where it has been growing

for many years. We have grown it for one year and it was winter hardy. In spring its growth did not appear until late. We thought it hadn't survived the winter, but once it started it grew vigorously and put up four bloomstalks with nicely shaped white flowers. They had small yellow signals which were crossed by short purple lines. The stylearms also have purple midribs. We will report more as we learn about this lovely plant.

Seeds of these plants are often available from seed exchanges like the Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA), the British Iris Society (BIS) or the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS). *Iris cristata* seeds take two years to germinate, but then the seedlings grow fast and flower within another year or two. *Iris ruthenica* takes less time to germinate and flower. The plants sometimes appear at iris society sales or auctions. Give them a try! They are rewarding, friendly little plants. 

[This article is reprinted with permission from the Spring 2002 issue (Vol. 22, No. 1) of *IRID-ISM*, the Newsletter of the Iris Society of Massachusetts.]

In Memoriam

Jim D. Coward, Texas

Billy J. Langston, Georgia

Sue Elder, Mississippi

Shelly Lynn, Ohio

Barbara J. Figge,
New Mexico

Marlene Newburn,
Nebraska

Mrs. Frederick W. Gadd,
Connecticut

Frank Nickell, Washington

Mrs. J.H. Jamieson, Texas

Gladys Tupling,
Washington, DC

AIS Convention Liaison Update

Scheduled Conventions as of May 1, 2002

<i>Year Dates</i>	<i>City Chairman</i>	<i>Headquarters</i>
2003 12-17 May	Falls Church, VA Clarence Mahan 7311 Churchill Road McLean, VA 22101 (703) 893-8526 <cemahan@aol.com>	Fairview Park Marriott 3111 Fairview Park Drive Falls Church, VA 22042 (703) 849-9400
2004 19-24 April	Fresno, CA Betty Coyle P. O. Box 68 Carlotta, CA 95528 (707) 768-3940 <irislady@northcoast.com>	Radisson Hotel 2233 Ventura Street Fresno, CA 93721 (559) 268-1000
2005 9-14 May	St. Louis, MO Riley Probst 418 N. Van Buren St. Louis, MO 63122 (314) 822-2485 <rprobst02@earthlink.net>	
2006 22-27 May	Portland, OR John W. Ludi 35071 SE Hwy 211 Boring, OR 97009 (503) 668-9230	
2007 May	Oklahoma City, OK F. W. McVicker Route 3, Box 10 Kingfisher, OK 73750 (405) 374-3115	

In Memoriam: Barbara Jean Figge


by Karen Bergamo, New Mexico

B

BARBARA FIGGE WAS A DEDICATED IRISARIAN. SHE WAS THE past Region 23 Vice President of the American Iris Society and had just finished a term as a Director on the AIS Board. She belonged to many iris societies and clubs over the years, but her main focus was always the New Mexico Iris Society. In NMIS she had served in almost every office, on every committee, and had been chairman of both main functions, the show and the sale, numerous times.

Barbara was always happy to see new people join the group. She was pleased when someone wanted to become a judge and was delighted to sign for them. She believed in encouraging new interests in iris.

Barbara was well known in the iris world and was honored to be asked to judge shows in other areas. I was fortunate to travel with her quite a bit. She was both mentor and friend. I judged with her numerous times, many places. She was an Active Master Judge and was always interested in taking judge's training to expand and enhance her knowledge.

Barbara was a wife, mother, teacher, and friend. I know I am not alone when I say, "I will miss her". 

[Reprinted from the Newsletter of Region 23.]

AIS Affiliate Award Contest

by Bob Keup, *Affiliate Award Contest Chair*



OUR CONGRATULATION TO THE ELMOHR IRIS SOCIETY OF Colorado Springs (Region 20), winner of the AIS Affiliate Award contest.

Elmor scored 440 points in the 2001 contest. They put together an impressive array of club accomplishments. The key to winning was their ability to score points in most categories of this contest. It was obvious they are an active and vibrant club, doing many thing well in order to promote and enjoy our favorite flower!


In addition to publishing an excellent monthly newsletter to keep their members informed, they presented outstanding iris-related programs at their monthly meetings, and did a great job in publicizing their activities in the local newspapers. Finally, they received bonus points from the committee for the quality of their newsletter, outreach programs to other organizations, and the special project they sponsor, a garden project better known as the Dr. Loomis Trial Garden. This is a project where iris are sent by hybridizes from all over the country to be evaluated for three years. The results are reported in the *AIS Bulletin* each year.

The first runner-up was the Capital-Hudson Iris Society from Albany, NY, Region 2.

The second runner-up was the Fort Worth Iris Society from Region 17.

A total of 21 Affiliates representing 12 Regions submitted nominations this year. Region 2 (New York) had the highest participation rate (85.7) with 6 out of 7 Affiliates submitting nominations.

Our thanks to each affiliate and Region for supporting this AIS-sponsored project. We hope to see more presidents recognize their hard-working members by submitting a nomination for their Affiliate this year.

Questions regarding this year's contest can be sent to: Bob Keup, e-mail bkeup@msn.com, PO Box 24, Kinderhook NY 12106. 

Corrections

CORRECTIONS to the "AIS Contributions & Gifts" published on pages 103-105 of the April 2002 AIS Bulletin #325.

LISTING ERROR:

The following tribute, mistakenly placed under the Memorials heading should have been placed as follows:

GIFTS IN HONOR:

KEVIN MORLEY (KS)

Greater Kansas City Iris Society (MO)(L)

OMISSION ERROR:

The second listing printed under "Memorials" should have been:

JEANNE AMES

Region 12, AIS (G)

The name of Jeanne Ames was dropped by the computer in transmission to the Bulletin Editor for publication. This caused the memorial donation from "Region 12, AIS (G)" to appear erroneously as a donation in the name of Helen Aitken (Canada).

Both errors were generated in my office and sent for printing undetected until I saw them in print in the April *Bulletin*. I offer my sincere apology.

Both listings will be printed correctly (as they should have appeared in April) in the regular AIS Contributions and Gifts column of the October 2002 *AIS Bulletin* #327.

— Jeanne Clay Plank, Donations Secretary 

Bob Plank:

2001 Distinguished Service Award

by Barbara Aitken



BOB PLANK, KNOWN IN SOME CIRCLES AS "TRIPOD MAN," is the 2001 recipient of the AIS Distinguished Service Award for behind-the-scenes work performed as general counsel for the AIS. Bob has served four generations of AIS presidents and directors on matters such as term limits, bylaws revisions, regional reorganizations, license agreements, service contracts, and, yes, whether youth members can be denied door prizes.

For many years Bob was photo coordinator for the *Bulletin* and occasional contributor to AIS covers, articles, brochures, postcards, and calendars. In real life, he is an attorney in the Los Angeles office of McKenna Long & Aldridge, LLP, a business-oriented firm of 375 professionals with a total staff of 750 in eight cities worldwide.

Bob is a native Californian, born in the beach town of Santa Monica and raised in the Los Angeles area. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in English from Whittier College, where he was an honor scholar and editor of the campus newspaper. He earned a master's degree in English from the University of Connecticut where he worked towards a secondary teaching credential when doubling as an English instructor. While on the faculty and pursuing a doctorate at the Harvard University, the military caught up with him at the peak of the Korean conflict.


After separation from the Army, Bob worked at Lockheed Burbank for 34 years, starting as an engineering writer. With night study, the position evolved into engineering program management in the Skunk Works, the division of Lockheed that dealt with its most advanced aerospace projects, such as the U-2, SR-71, and F-117A. Bob holds one issued patent and four government-owned disclosures of invention related to radar stealth.

While continuing to work at Lockheed by day, he attended Valley

University of Law by night. In 1979 he graduated with the degree of juris doctor and was admitted to the California Bar. Ten years later an opportunity arose for early retirement from Lockheed. He took it and joined the government contracts department of McKenna. For the past 12 years he has specialized in government aerospace contract litigation. Recent cases involved the AC-130U Gunship, the International Space Station, and National Missile Defense. At present he is beginning to ease back from a full McKenna workload.

Bob's involvement with irises and the AIS began with his marriage to Jeanne Clay in 1979, second for both. In the exchange of mutual vows, Jeanne promised to crew the sailboat if Bob participated in iris-ing. With an aversion to weeding and digging, but to maintain the appearance of being involved, Bob started by photographing irises. Discouraged by indifferent results, Bob took to heart an article in *Pacific Horticulture* by George Waters, noted plantsman, writer, editor, and photographer. George touted the tripod as an aid for composition, sharpness, and depth of field using the slower, finer grain true color films.

As Jeanne's work with the AIS increased, Bob also became more involved. When Jeanne became Secretary she inherited the continuing struggle to achieve non-profit tax exempt status for the various divisions of the AIS. Since dealing with the IRS did not involve weeding or digging, Bob volunteered to help. On a pro bono basis, he had the full backing of McKenna, whose firm-wide expertise includes all aspects of counseling tax exempt organizations. He and specialists in the firm worked with the IRS to set the stage for a simplified group exemption procedure whereby any AIS region, section, or affiliate can seek IRS Section 501(c)(3) recognition by going through Bob rather than dealing directly with the IRS. Such recognition makes an organization exempt from income taxes and makes a donor's contribution deductible.

Bob's greatest disappointment as counselor to the AIS board was the spin off of the Tall Bearded Iris Society. He vows to follow any lead that could get the two societies back together, short of weeding and digging. 

Ensminger's Irises Nebraska Born Hardy to -20 Price List 2002

QUITE THE SAME

This is a TB Iris with variegated foliage and a purple base. Actually it has tri-colored foliage, green, white and purple. "NOTHING WILL EVER BE QUITE THE SAME!" This Iris has been named **QUITE THE SAME** so that you may see what nothing will ever be. Our friends tell us that it should be introduced. It was judged the best seedling at the AIS Spring Show in York, PA Spring 2001. It has had wide distribution as seedling 89-59. The flower is an amoena with good form and ruffling. The plant can be seen on page 38 of the January AIS Bulletin, year 2000.

QUITE THE SAME is priced at \$25, plus \$5 for postage and handling.

With each purchase of QUITE THE SAME, you may choose two of the following extras:

GLADYS MY LOVE (extra)

GLADYS MY LOVE is as near as I have been able to get a pink amoena. It is the result of many years of hybridizing to get a beautiful Iris to name for my wife Gladys. You may see **GLADYS MY LOVE** on page 59, AIS Bulletin #309. I wish the falls were pinker. I am still trying.

JOY JOY JOY (extra)

JOY JOY JOY is a beautiful, clean amoena with white standards and deep violet falls. The falls also have a 3/8th inch white border. This is a bright Iris that attracts attention, and to me, it is a joy to behold. The foliage is dark green and disease-resistant. **JOY JOY JOY** was intended to be an amoena with variegated foliage so good foliage was essential. **JOY JOY JOY's** major fault is that it blooms too much. Each stalk has two occasions when there are three well-spaced flowers open at the same time.

SINGS SO SOFTLY (extra)

SINGS SO SOFTLY is a small tall. It sings its song quietly in the Iris patch, and you hardly know it's there until you come across it singing its song and doing its thing. You think, "What a beautiful Iris. How have I overlooked it 'til now?"

MISSOULA (extra)

MISSOULA is a SDB named after a delightful town in Montana. I was there to speak and judge their spring show. I don't know about the rest of the year, but in the spring Missoula is a little bit of heaven, both the town and its people, and the Iris.

THESE AND OTHER ENSMINGER IRISES may be purchased from Henry and Opal Wulf's Bachachers Garden, 7172 So. 70th St., Lincoln, NE 68516.

BUGLES AND HOODS (George)



Photo: Arken

American Iris Society Foundation

Contributions to the American Iris Society Foundation are used for the research of the genus iris, administration of scholarships and the support of the AIS Library through the Evelyn Jones Memorial Library Fund. This research includes the taxonomy as well as the cause of diseases and their cures. Over the years, grants have been issued to the top researchers and educational institutions throughout the United States as well as internationally.

October 1, 2001 - April 1, 2002

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Region 1, AIS

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Amy Jo Grissim (TN)

Twin State Iris Society (TN)

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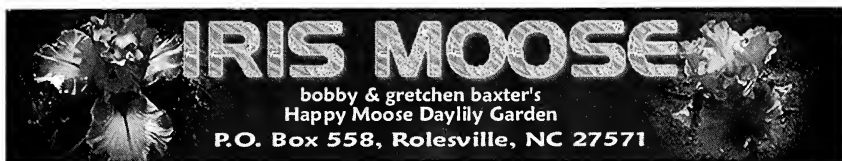
Region 1, AIS

How can you make a contribution or memorial gift to the American Iris Society Foundation?

Checks should be made payable to the American Iris Society Foundation. When sending a memorial gift, please include the name and address of the next-of-kin, so an acknowledgement card may be sent. Your tax-deductible donations should be sent to:

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Glenn & Susan Grigg

Tom Bruce, Carolina Daylilies

Marietta Gardens, John-Faye-Elizabeth Shooter

Dr. E. Roy Epperson, American Iris Society's 2nd Vice President, opens his iris and hosta garden to the Happy Moose and you for a color explosion. Here you will see the newest tall bearded irises on the planet from Dr. Epperson's vast collection in his High Point, North Carolina garden. Glenn and Susan Grigg of Raleigh, North Carolina introduced me to iris and you will most likely also become captivated. The Grigg's have traveled to most Iris Society national conventions for the past two decades and have personally selected each special flower grown in the garden. You will enjoy a full hour of irises followed by the daylilies of Tom Bruce's Carolina Daylilies. The greenhouse of Carolina Daylilies is the premiere supplier of the highest quality daylily seed on this planet. When you see the plants used in seed production, you will understand why. This video concludes with the Open House of John, Faye, and Elizabeth Shooter's Marietta Gardens. The Shooters' garden is North Carolina's largest daylily garden with over 4000 cultivars and features the stunning daylily creations from all three of the Shooters.

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Flight Lines

compiled by Peter Weixlmann, New York

Iris Changing Color

I just joined this group. This question has probably come up many times, but please indulge me. Many people believe that irises change color from time to time. I contend that they are genetically programmed to be a certain color and maintain that color without any changes. I don't want to be right necessarily; I just want to know what the facts are. Thanks

—J Storrs

There are conditions under which irises can ...

1. change color: Roundup and other herbicides can cause temporary color changes. Blooms usually vary a little in color as they age. Some soil deficiencies or differences may result in minor variations of color.

2. appear to change color: You planted 2 different cultivars, and they are blooming in alternate years. You started with lots of colors, and now have only one because the strongest grower has taken over the bed. The picture on the Wal-Mart iris packet was incorrect - you were expecting it to be accurate. Your irises produced seed pods and now you have seedlings of a different color, blooming amongst them. etc. etc.

If you go to: www.Mallorn.com/lists/iris-talk/ and do a search, you will find much interesting reading matter on this topic. You will also find lots of other interesting topics to read up on. Always ask questions. There are plenty of people here to discuss irises with. Cheers, Jan Clark, Australia, zone 8

You happen to be right. For instance, WINTERLAND is white, and will always be white. There have been claims of Irises changing color, but what really happens is that the bed was poorly maintained, and the most vigorous variety won out.

—Mark A. Cook, Dunnellon, Florida [USDA Zone 8b]

Freeze Damage

I'm seeing a lot of attempt to go ahead and bloom and am seeing some odd things. Mainly a lack of branching and side buds, but also some normal height bloom stalks without any buds in the spathes. On some established clumps the stalks range from normal height to down in the fan and heights all in between, on the same clump. There was a noticeable lack of pollen on the early blooms, but I'm seeing it on many of those blooming this week. Foliage is still abnormal on many, but some have finally began to grow out of it. I suspect nothing really escaped some effect from the freeze.

—Donald Eaves, donald@eastland.net, Texas Zone 7b, USA

A couple of other factors that affect severity of freeze damage:

How long the plants stay cold can have a big effect. Plants in the same garden but in slightly different locations in relation to morning thaw can show huge differences in the degree of damage. Part of the reason I go thru this nearly every year is because there is a steep ridge of hills that are about 400 ft higher than my garden that block the sun till late in the morning. A tree trunk blocking the sun can have the same effect on a smaller scale.

Similarly, slope position can have an effect—sometimes frost pockets are colder, but occasionally ridge tops are colder, depending on air circulation & cloud cover. Often, it can get colder on a ridge top, but usually warms faster in the morning - hard to say how that would play out in terms of damage, but stage of growth of individual stalks and fans, which in turn are related to nutrition and prior warmth and moisture are factors.

Finally, I have found that exposed rhizomes are more likely to suffer more damage to undeveloped flower stalks. I'm less worried about damage to foliage - plants can usually get over that. So I try to keep a layer of soil on top of the rhizomes. In established clumps, I am not as good about doing this, but these clumps usually have a protective layer of litter (yes, that dreadful, disease-harboring mat of dead iris leaves) & winter weeds. I try not to get too carried away with weeding and cleaning until well after the possibility of any freezes into the mid-20s or lower. Or until I see bloom stalks. Linda Mann east Tennessee USA zone 7/8.

Time To Divide

This year I have some beds that are getting overgrown, and need to be separated. The problem is that some are really close, and I want to make sure I label them correctly. My question is do I separate now, or how would I label them well enough that when I do my usual dividing in July-Sept that I don't get them mixed up.

Can I just move them right now [early Spring]? I have read that dividing now leads to increased chances of rot. I do treat with comet, and perform a bleach bath on anything that looks suspicious. I just purchased more of the zinc plant labels, and am really addicted now!

I can't wait for my new catalogs to start arriving. I ordered a bunch from Sutton's last year and am amazed at the amount of blooms I got the first year. I am already looking at areas to kill grass and bring out the rototiller. Thanks for any help.

—Amy

One solution, as unsightly as it is, would be to label the fans now with a sharpie marker. Do this low and on the inner leaves. It should last until your normal dig time. Another possibility would be to divide out hunks of the clumps, roots and all, and move them now. We have had good success in moving clumps/half clumps in early spring as long as the soil ball stays intact.

—John jbruce1@cinci.rr.com

Hidden Acres Iris Gardens SW Ohio, USDA Zone 5b

SEPARATING: One way with big, dense clumps is to just cut out a chunk with a shovel. Some fans and roots may be lost but the plant grows back. Time factor takes precedent over the "waste."

Less drastic is using a knife to cut through the core a bit, then forking out a piece from the side.

My favorite way without digging entire plant can give me a couple of fans or several. Shove in digging fork where separation seems likely and pull out a little. Use a narrow weeder, screwdriver, another fork, old scissors, etc, to pull the other way. Then dig in at the side to "go" with fork or shovel & remove. To separate into smaller pieces, wiggle apart with hands and narrow tool.

—Julia Baxter-zone 5-6

I don't know where you live, but sometimes I, in Texas, divide just after bloom. This is sometimes better for rebloomers than in the fall. To

help avoid rot, water the newly replanted irises with a sprinkling can full of a combination of water and liquid antibacterial soap, such as Dial. I use ½ cup of soap in 1 gal. of water. If you see rot developing, scrape away all the soft mush, and wet the remaining surface with the liquid soap undiluted. It has worked every time for me.

—Pat in Dallas

Pedigree

What do the “(“ represent [in iris parentage]? Still confused in El Paso!
—Doris Elevier SDA 7b, Sunset 11 El Paso, TX

They enclose a given cross and should always match in number. For each one of the (‘s you should be able to find a matching). But, it is so easy to miscount when typing.

In this case we have a named iris crossed by a seedling. I think this should be written: Arrangement X (Beisan Aga x Kalifa Gulnare) This is the way crosses are written in the R & I's and I believe it is the accepted format.

I have seen it written like this . . . ((Arrangement X (Beisan Aga x Kalifa Gulnare)), but never with unequal ()'s. This would be appropriate if both irises crossed were seedlings, for example: ((Arrangement x WXYZ) X (Beisan Aga x Kalifa Gulnare)). The inside (and the outside) represent the last cross.

If you have access to any of the R & I's (Registration & Introduction) booklets or books you can read through them and get some idea. Maybe the one online? Just remember that everything to the left of the big X is the pod parent and everything to the right is the pollen parent. Some get quite involved.

—Betty Wilkerson from South-central KY . . . Zone 6 . . . sometimes.

Bloomout

We have occasional cases of bloomout too, but for us it always seems to be the first year plants. They send up a stalk on a single fan that first spring, and then quietly go away by fall, never ending up an increase. We have heavy bloom on second year plants, but they always have increases appearing by fall. Maybe your plants are so happy to bloom where they are that they just overdo it in an attempt to please you?

—John Bruce, Hidden Acres Iris Gardens SW Ohio, USDA Zone 5b

Celebration Song is trying to bloom out. I am hoping that somewhere among that mass of stalks is a fan that doesn't have a stalk coming out of it, so I will still have Celebration Song to baby through the summer and bloom again next year. Does someone on Iris-talk know the cause of this problem, or have any idea of how to prevent or at least minimize it? In the same bed, I have also lost clumps of Sostenique and Gypsy Romance. It always seems to affect second year clumps.

—Francelle Edwards Glendale, AZ Zone 9

A "bloom-out" is when the iris makes NO increases; it just sends up bloom after bloom after bloom. I posted a picture of IRISH CHANT in the throes of a full-blown bloom out. You can see there are only 3-4 fans and a whole mess of bloom stalks. She sent up over 14 blooms. Check back in the archives for [more about] Bloomout.

—Doris Elevier USDA 7b, Sunset 11 El Paso, TX

A fan of leaves (a rhizome) produces only one bloomstalk, and then dies. "Bloomout" is the term used when a rhizome blooms, but produces no increases. Sometimes, it takes a while for increase to show up after bloom, but other times increase never comes, and the rhizome simply rots away. Bloom is great, but without increase, it is the last bloom you see.

—John Bruce, Hidden Acres Iris Gardens, SW Ohio, USDA Zone 5b

Alfalfa

I'm curious about the type of alfalfa pellets being used [as a soil amendment]. Is it just Alfalfa compressed into pellets or an alfalfa based pelleted feed such as one would feed rabbits? Or does it matter?

—Doris Elevier USDA 7b, Sunset 11 El Paso, TX

It's straight alfalfa, Doris - horse feed type. I don't quite understand the problem with rabbit pellets, but they presumably contain other ingredients not beneficial to irises. I prefer to use alfalfa meal rather than pellets. It's cheaper and distributes more evenly when tilled into the soil. Better yet, my irises seem to really LOVE an alfalfa/manure tea I make for them. Laurie zone 3b northern MN - clay soil

The compressed horse pellets—alfalfa only— or the alfalfa meal pellets are what are normally used. You have to watch out for the additives used to make them into feed. Corn and molasses are two of

those ingredients. There was a discussion on-list a few years back about something in the corn (I think) that was a growth suppressant. Laurie is correct about meal being better, and for an additional reason—less weed seeds. I got a batch of the horse pellets one year and had a huge crop of weeds the following spring — weeds which I had never seen before!

—John Bruce, Hidden Acres Iris Gardens SW Ohio, USDA Zone 5b

Siberian CHINA SPRING

A first for our garden: We have a Siberian iris blooming before most of the tall bearded: CHINA SPRING has been blooming for three or four days and is quite a lovely thing, tall and elegant. Does anyone else grow this one, and if so, does it bloom this early in the season for you?

—Judith Hunt in Louisville, KY Zone 6 (very close to Zone 5)

CHINA SPRING (Bauer/Coble, 1999) is listed in the '99 Checklist as a VE bloomer. Its pedigree is Springs Brook X I. typhifolia. The latter is the least well known of the 28-chromosome Siberian species, and a very early bloomer. It is just now being worked into the hybrid Siberian gene pool and tends to pass its early blooming tendencies on to its offspring. I have seedlings from two different crosses with I. typhifolia that bloom along with the SDB's.

—Jeff Walters in northern Utah
(USDA Zone 4/5, Sunset Zone 2, AHS Zone 7)

We grow it and it consistently blooms with the very earliest bearded iris.

—Greg McCullough Iris City Gardens Primm Springs, TN

Pink and Blue

I'm looking for one with pink standards and blue falls. I would also like to see any that have opposite coloration (blue standards, pink falls.) Does anyone know of a variety like this?

—Kim St. Louis

I've seen a number of plicatas with pink standards and blue-purple edged falls (mostly from Keppel); a few iris with pale pink standard and dark purple falls (probably Blyth or Ghio); or some pale pink-white things with faint lavender edging on the standards from Shockey; but

I've never seen a true blue-and-pink. Beard color, maybe; although "blue-bearded pinks" are usually lavender beards and not blue.

—John Reeds

[Here are two pink-and-blues:} TOUCHE' by Melba Hamblen; PASTEL BLUE by John Durrance. [The latter] deserves a less confusing name.

—Walter Moores Enid Lake, MS USA 7/8

The only iris of this sort I've seen, and the falls are actually more medium to light violet, is PINK SAPPHIRE .

—Janet Natale zone 8 of SC

POEM OF ECSTASY (HAGER '97?) Has wonderful form with PK std./ BL f. It should be widely available by now. Poem of Ecstasy will be opening for me (for the first time) today. The falls look purely lavender to me. There are a lot of pink/lavender bicolors on the market; pink/blue is a lot more difficult.

—John Reeds

Siberian Culture SIBROB

Sibrobs folks, can you help with a problem in my sibs-JI bed? A few of the sibs are a very chlorotic green. I think it might be because I sprinkled the sulphare (which I need to get the JIs to grow) a bit too generously in a couple of spots and the sibs couldn't grow in these too acid areas. I moved a couple of them but so far their color isn't improved; they are still chlorotic. I put them in another bed. Does anyone know how long it would take to get the rhizomes free of the low pH inside them? Can anyone suggest anything else I could do?

—Diana Louis Zone 4/5 Newmarket, Ontario, Canada

You probably do not need to amend the soil for JI's. Unless you are in a notoriously high alkaline soil area, the JI's will be OK in average soil no matter how much is written on the subject. On lists there are often folks who grow and breed and live and breathe one genus of plants. Then the cultural information becomes so specialized that other ordinary fanciers try tons of products and procedures that are often unnecessary. I have JI's that bloom in the garden with no special care. Pick plants with smaller flowers and less PR.

I have Siberians growing well in moderately rich, often dry soils and those that like it here do very well. Some never grow beyond a few

fans and actually decrease in size.

Pull out your sick Siberians and replant with a few shovels full of ordinary garden soil. You may have to wait a second year to get good growth and flowering. The huge flowering clumps of the older hybrids are not part of the newer hybrids.

You could leave those older hybrids in place for more than ten years and still have flowering and healthy leaves. Sometimes, we do not leave well enough alone.

Sadly, there is no guide for which Siberians grow well and where they grow well. A rating system started some years back was a good thing but not accepted by the growers and sellers so it is not universally known.

I pull out the poor doers after the flowering is over and plant in rows in the veg garden. If anything looks like it might have possibilities, I replant it in a new location. Some do, some don't.

The best advice I have is "seat of the pants" advice - look for the word "vigorous" in sale lists and catalogs and try to see a clump growing near you that looks vigorous and healthy. Siberians are so nice to have in the mixed borders, for me it will be June, that giving space to ailing plants is now not part of my gardening scheme.

Claire Peplowski NYS z4

Purple Pods

Maybe it's because it's the first pod I've achieved on ISTANBUL. Maybe it's because I haven't done enough hybridizing. Maybe it's because some kind of weird thing is happening, but I have a pod on Istanbul that is purple. I've never seen a purple pod before. It appears and feels perfectly healthy. Are there any other purple pod people out there?
—Griff

A seedling of mine, now named Radiant Bliss, always gives purple, sort of reddish, pods. Produces perfectly normal seed. However, this is the only one I've experienced.

—Betty Wilkerson Zone 7 SouthCentral Kentucky

Sterling Innerst's TENESSEE GENTLEMAN has set purple pods in my garden.

—Jeff Walters in northern Utah
(USDA Zone 4/5, Sunset Zone 2, AHS Zone 7)

Infernal Fire sets purple pods. Infernal Fire is yellow, streaked red
— a great iris!

—Kitty Loberg Northern Calif.

Spirit World also puts up purple pods. I also have a couple of setosa seedlings that have very dark purple, almost black seed pods.

—Chusk Chapman, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Here's a couple more that produce purple pods: INNOCENT STAR, DOUBLE SHOT, DOUBLE CLICK, LIP SERVICE.

—Mike Sutton, Ca.

Ring Around Rosie set purple pods for me. It might as well not have bothered. I didn't get a single seedling from them!

—Francelle Edwards Glendale, AZ Zone 9 

Photo: Marky Smith



Bob Plank, a.k.a. "Tripod Bob" (See story page 72)

Photo: Filardi



Photographers abound at the Tennessee Convention: Dave Niswonger inspects a pink amoena (Lange #592-1), Carla Lankow and Ott Schick in background.

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Kenneth Pierson, President
PO Box 1078
Julian, CA 92036-1078

San Fernando Valley Iris Society
Debbie Babuscio, President
20728 Dolorosa Street
Woodland Hills, CA 91367-6836

Sonoran Desert Iris Society
Darlene M. Kaiser, President
7239 W. Crittenden Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85033-4312

Southern California Iris Society
Michael Monninger, President
4861 Brookhill Terrace
Riverside, CA 92509-4088

Sun Country Iris Society
Ardi Kary, President
6201 East Calle Rosa
Scottsdale, AZ 85251-4224

Tucson Area Iris Society
Jane C. Parks, President
1007 West Prince Road #67
Tucson, AZ 85705-3168

Region 16

Ottawa River Iris Society
Jody Alberts-Corush
34 Eisenhower Crescent
Ottawa, ON K2J 3Z8 Canada

Toronto Iris Society
Jim McMillen, President
36 Dallington Drive
Toronto, ON M2J 2G3
Canada

Region 17

Belton Iris Society
Vickie Kekkey, President
PO Box 653
Salado, TX 76571-0653

Benson Iris Society
Annetta Reusch, President
42 Surrey Circle
Iowa Park, TX 76367-1041

Fort Worth Iris Society
Mark Legler, President
2205 Harrison Avenue
Fort Worth, TX 76110

Iris Society of Austin
Kathy Makgill, President
2405 Cliffs Edge Dr.
Austin, TX 78733-6032

Iris Society of Dallas
Annette Brown, President
3113 Natalie Dr.
Plano, TX 75074-4689

Johnson County Iris and
Daylily Society
Janice Green, President
3332 County Road 310
Cleburne, TX 76031-0733

New Braunfels Iris Society
John W. Penn, President
729 Winfield Blvd
San Antonio, TX 78239-2000

North Plains Iris Society
Billie G. Corbell, President
1605 N. Fairfield St.
Amarillo, TX 79107-6923

Permian Basin Iris Society
Debra Strauss, President
5121 W. Storey Avenue
Midland, TX 79703-5367

Piney Woods Iris Society
John Middleton, President
Toute 3 - Box 218
Mount Pleasant, TX 75455

South Plains Iris Society
Dana Brown, President
RT 3, Box 118-H
Lubbock, TX 79403

Texoma Iris Society
Thomas W. Nuckols, President
2341 Canyon Creek Drive
Sherman, TX 75092-2301

Waco Iris Society
Sue Swanner Coffelt, President
PO Box 443
Clifton, TX 76634

West Texas Iris Society
Floy M. Maberry, President
1704 W. Kentucky St.
Midland, TX 79701-6974

Region 18

Augusta Iris Club
James Winzer, President
3718 SW 100th St.
Augusta, KS 67010-8371

Boothill Iris Club
Carol Loker, President
2300 Fifth Ave.
Dodge City, KS 67801-2545

Garden City Area Iris Club
Nancy Price, President
1610 George St.
Garden City, KS 67846-4912

Greater Kansas City Iris Society
Debbie Hughes, President
3395 Utah Road
Wellsville, KS 66092-8892

Greater St. Louis Iris Society
Jim Morris, President
682 Huntley Heights Drive
Baldwin, MO 63021-5878

Hutchinson Iris Club
LaDeana Hindle, President
2206 East Ranger Road
Hutchinson, KS 67501-8467

Iris Society of the Ozarks
Marjorie Gayer, President
Box 146
Ash Grove, MO 65604-0146

Jeffco Iris Society
Stanley Grein, President
745 LaPorte St.
Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670-1027

Kirkwood Iris Society
Shirley Trio, President
418 N. VanBuren Ave.
Kirkwood, MO 63122-3921

Mineral Area Iris Society
Glenn A. Shelton, President
15875 St. Rt. CC
St. Genevieve, MO 63670-9176

O'Fallon Iris Society
Vincent Italian, President
11728 Benedetta Dr.
Bridgeton, MO 63044-3405

Parsons Area Iris Society
Beryl Fultz, President
1749 19,000 Rd.
Parsons, KS 67357-8041

Pony Express Iris Society
William D. Widener, President
3875 SW Bethel Rd.
St. Joseph, MO 64504

Semo Iris Society
Clyde F. Hahn, President
200 North School Street
Desloge, MO 63601-3548

Show Me Iris Society
Bob Tankesley-Clarke,
President
31642 Wieneke Branch
California, MO 65018-9739

Tri-State Iris Society
Sandra Capshaw, President
10891 S. 689 Rd.
Wyandotte, OK 74370

Washington Iris Club
Barbara Fouts, President
592 Roller Rd.
St. Clair, MO 63077-2905

Wichita Area Iris Club
Pauletta Carlson, President
2025 N. Westridge
Wichita, KS 67203-1055

Region 19

Garden State Iris Society
Mary R. Townsend, President
62 Elizabeth Street
Pemberton, NJ 08068-1218

Region 20

Elmohr Iris Society
Ellen McIntosh, President
4710 Yarrow Place
Colorado Springs, CO
80917-1426

High Country Iris Society
Randy P. Penn, President
4108 South Sherman St.
Englewood, CO 80110-4719

Loomis Iris Society
Rose D. McLain, President
1210 Hopkins Ave.
Rocky Ford, CO 81067-2404

Northern Colorado Iris &
Daylily Club
Mitzi Davis, President
507 Nokomis Court
Fort Collins, CO 80524-5412

Region 21

Dawson County Iris Society
Raymond Jackson, President
76510 Road 421
Cozad, NE 69130

Elkhorn Valley Iris Society
Neal Pohlman, President
PO Box 1783
Norfolk, NE 68702

Greater Omaha Iris Society
Ronald G. Crampton,
President
1024 North 74th Ave.
Omaha, NE 68114

Lincoln Iris Society
Eugene Kalkwarf, President
8521 W. Haven Rd.
Lincoln, NE 68528-9137

Sioux Empire Iris Society
Michael Hemmer, President
721 Sout Walts Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-4744

Siouxland Iris Society
Robert C. Flick, President
1830 Whitehouse St.
Sioux Center, IA 51106-2138

Trails West Iris Society
Ron Charles, President
1419 Avenue N
Scottsbluff, NE 69361-4144

Region 22

Central Arkansas Iris Society
Patsy Stover, President
6200 Kenwood Rd .
Little Rock, AR 72207-1828

Hot Springs Iris Society
Lyle Reininger, President
398 Prichard Street
Hot Springs, AR 71913-6022

Lawton Area Friends of Iris Society
Elsie E. Harrow, President
Route 2 - Box 488
Comanche, OK 73529-9674

Norman Area Iris Society
Marthella Shoemake, Pres.
11327 Draper, PO Box 549
Nicoma Park, OK 73066-0549

North Central Iris Society
Francis W. McVicker, President
Rt. 3, Box 10 K
Kingfisher, OK 73750-9503

Northern Oklahoma Iris Society
Marilyn Clarke, President
158 Whitworth Avenue
Ponca City, OK 74601-3438

Oklahoma Iris Society
June P. Hardy, President
5809 Comanche Ct.
Oklahoma City, OK 73132-6620

Rolling Hills Iris Society
Helen Jones, President
1612 West Park Place
Oklahoma City, OK 73106-4654

Sooner State Iris Society
Louise Carson, President
5037 NW 24th Place
Oklahoma City, OK 73127

Southwest Oklahoma Iris Society
Willie C. Cooper, President
202 East Washington Street
Walters, OK 73572-2260

Tulsa Area Iris Society
Philip Stonecipher, President
6965 East 20th Place
Tulsa, OK 74112-7615

White County Iris Society
Mrs. LaVera Johnson, Pres.
138 Johnson Ave.
Bradford, AR 72020-9766

Region 23

Albuquerque Aril Society
Peter R. McGrath, President
11208 Eagle Rock Ave. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122-4110

Mesilla Valley Iris Society
William H. Phifer, President
4140 Cholla Road
Las Cruces, NM 88011-7603

New Mexico Iris Society
Helen K. Crotty, President
1366 State Road 344
Sandia Park, NM 87047-9630

Pecos Valley Iris Society
Gary Biggs, President
3008 North Garden Avenue
Roswell, NM 88201-7759

Santa Fe Iris Society
Magdalene Rubino, President
2 ABS Road
Santa Fe, NM 87506-7906

Region 24

Birmingham Area Iris Society
Joe M. Langdon, President
4832 Mill Springs Circle
Birmingham, AL 35223-1681

Blount Iris & Daylily Society
Clyde Walker, President
780 Culwell Road
Hayden, AL 35079-5847

Cullman Iris and Daylily Society
Sue Rodgers, President
1897 County Road 438
Cullman, AL 35057-3001

Golden Wings Iris Society
Rissa Lawrence, President
201 Lawrence Rd.
Caledonia, MS 39740

Huntsville Chapter of the A.I.S.
Donald Dunstone, President
2923 Pulaski Pike
Huntsville, AL 35810-3753

N.E. AL. Hosta, Iris and Daylily
Society
Dyanne Thigpen, President
2225 Hickory Hill Dr.
Guntersville, AL 35976

North Mississippi Lakes
Iris Society
Billie Lynn Jones, President
86 Greeslin Rd.
Grenada, MS 38901-8651

Old South Iris Society
Bill Burleson, President
229 Culver Rd.
Nettleton, MS 38858-9122

Changes in Affiliates since 2001:

Region 2 has one new Affiliate:
Southern Tier Iris Society

One Affiliate has disbanded.

One Affiliate has decided not to Affiliate this year.

Seven Affiliates have not renewed yet.

This list has 176 Approved Affiliates.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley L. Pope
Affiliates Chairman

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

APRIL 24-25, 2002

The Spring Meeting of the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society was called to order by President Terry Aitken at 1:05 PM on April 24, 2002. Aitken welcomed the group and asked each person, both Board and audience members, to introduce themselves.

Present during the various sessions were: **Officers:** President Aitken, Immediate Past President Mahan, 1st Vice-President J. Plank, 2nd Vice President Epperson, Treasurer Hudson **Administrative Officers:** Editor Bruce Filardi, Recording Secretary Bonino, Incoming Membership Secretary M. Brown, **Directors:** Gossett, Jones, M. Lowe, Meyer, Jean Morris, N. Pocklington, Pope, Probst, G. Snyder, Weixlmann; **Committee Chairs:** Leader, A. Lowe, J. Poling, M. Snyder, **RVPs:** Sawyer (1), D. James (2), Thrift (5), Rawlings (6), Boyson (7), M. Sutton (14), Ives (representing 16), R. Keisling (18), Roberts (20), Kalkwarf (21), Randall (23); **Legal Advisor:** R. Plank; **Parliamentarian:** R. Figge; **Guests:** R. James (2), G. DeQuoy (4), C. Warner (4), Honkanen (5), Gardner (6), T. & D. Willott (6), A. & E. Henson (9), I. Pocklington (9), Abrego (13), B. Aitken (13), L. Reid (13), Shinn (13), Silverberg (13), G. Sutton (14), A. Poling (15), L. Begley (17), V. Christopherson (17), Rosen (17), J. Keisling (18), A. R. Kinnard (18), Jim Morris (18), Price (18), Trio (18), G. White (21).

Mahan moved, Pope seconded that Rosalie Figge be appointed as Parliamentarian for this meeting. Motion carried.

M. Lowe moved, Pope seconded to approve the request of President Aitken to appoint Jeanne Plank as pro-tem Secretary in the absence of Sara Marley. Motion carried.

Minutes: There were no corrections to the minutes of the Fall 2001 Board Meeting as published in AIS Bulletin #324. Epperson moved, J. Plank seconded that minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President: Eight items of business were discussed that had been previously handled via phone and email between the Fall 2001 and Spring 2002 Board Meetings. All issues have been approved by a majority of Board members via email, but all issues must be re-affirmed by voice vote at this Board Meeting.

Epperson moved, J. Plank seconded to affirm the following three items. Motion carried.

1. The move of the Storefront from New Mexico to Oregon which occurred in early December and cost less than \$1,000.

2. The appointment of John and Kay Ludi as the new Storefront Managers.

3. The initiation of a promotion campaign to bring more copies of The World of Iris to AIS members. Discounts of 20% and 40% for an order of 10 and 100 copies respectively will be instituted.

4. Mahan moved, G. Snyder seconded to grant authorization to the Membership Secretary to use discretionary measures in issuing dues adjustments with documentation. Motion carried.

5. Epperson moved, Gossett seconded to award dual Life Memberships to Currier and Elisabeth McEwen in honor of Dr. McEwen's 100th birthday. Motion carried.

6. Mahan moved, N. Pocklington seconded to appoint Mary Brown (Region 4) as Membership Secretary to take office August 4, 2002, the day that Whitehead leaves office. Motion carried.

7. Mahan moved, M. Lowe seconded to authorize Treasurer Hudson to purchase two books by Robin A. Fenner: (1) A Genius Undeclared and (2) Guernsey: My Heaven on Earth for the AIS Library. Motion carried.

8. Hudson moved, Mahan seconded that the date of joining AIS be reinstated as the date of record for membership renewal with renewal notices sent out monthly. Motion carried.

Mahan moved, Gossett seconded that this membership renewal change be effective January 1, 2003. Motion carried. Discussion of how to administer these changes ensued.

First Vice President:

1. Past RVP pins: Pins, ordered as authorized at the November, 2001 Board meeting, have been shipped to the Storefront.

2. The Invitation to Join brochure: J. Plank distributed the color multi-fold brochures. J. Plank noted that the back panel, a tear-off page, can be printed on demand as dues, addresses or other information changes. The Board and members of the audience applauded a job well done.

Second Vice President: No separate report for this office.

Secretary: J. Plank read the report from Sara Marley.

1. The paperwork required by the State of Oregon (due to AIS non-profit status) was accomplished in about a month's time thanks to the perseverance of the new managers, John & Kay Ludi.

2. The mission of transporting AIS artifacts from Ponca, NE to Salem, OR by the Marley's was accomplished by November 13, 2001 with expenses amounting to \$811.37.

Marley thanked the incoming Directors and RVPs for their patience in the late receipt of stationary, due to the trip.

Treasurer: Hudson distributed copies of the most recent financial report for The American Iris Society as of March 31, 2002. Total current assets are \$297,846 up from \$274,932 at the end of March, 2001. Net Income for the period ended 10-01-01 through 3-31-02 is \$42,389 versus only \$24,045 for this same period last year.

1. Hudson referred to the Ludi's Report of Sales and Inventory and discussed Storefront activity. Total Sales for January - March, 2002 were \$9,678.50.

2. Hudson pointed out that good rates are still coming in on the certificates of deposit, and that no large expenses are foreseen other than perhaps insurance.

Hudson moved, Jones seconded to approve the proposed Budget for the 2001-2002 fiscal year as included in the March 31, 2002 Report. Motion carried.

Comments concerning the Audit Report:

Bonino distributed copies of the Audit Report for The American Iris Society for the fiscal year ended 9-30-01. The Report consisted of audit procedures performed and recommendations for improvements. Overall, the financial condition of the AIS is good and record-keeping is up to date. The Board discussed the four recommendations in the report:

1. Recommendation to add the value of the current and the cost of future Storefront Inventory to the assets of The Society. Also discussed adding the cost or appraisal of the Library materials and the new Membership Secretary computer system/database program. This would make the financial statements reflect closer the total value of The Society.

2. Recommendation to expand AIS website or link it to the AIS Gift Shop site so that members can buy storefront items online. Board discussed this at some length.

Mahan moved, J. Plank seconded that recommendations to implement #1 and #2 be completed and presented at the Fall Meeting by Hudson (#1) and Jones (#2), respectively. Motion carried.

3. Recommendation that all Petty Cash bank statements (being handled by the Storefront, Membership Secretary, and Secretary) be copied and forwarded to Hudson, so he has complete records of all bank accounts. Hudson reported that this is being done.

4. Recommendation to check into insurance coverage over the Library and Storefront items. Insurance Chair M. Snyder reported that this is in place in the amount of \$150,000 at each place.

Mahan moved, Jones seconded that Board give a unanimous commendation to Bonino for the Audit Report. Motion carried. Mahan stated that the Treasurer's Report be filed for audit.

Editor: Filardi distributed copies of his report. President Aitken commented that we may be \$2,000-\$3,000 over budget this year. Bulletin pages could be cut, but the 128-page issue best accommodates AIS needs. Mahan moved, Probst seconded that we budget funds for at least a 128-

page July 2002 issue. Motion carried.

There was no Ad Editor Report. Filardi explained that Ad Manager Peters has been dealing with family illness during the past year. Filardi will follow-up with a reminder of the need for an advertising report at the Fall 2002 meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORTS

Membership Secretary: Pope read the Whitehead report.

1. On March 31, 2002, total active members as of March 31, 2002 are 6,572, a net loss of 298 members or approximately 4% over the last 12 months. At this time Region 14 continues to lead with 597 AIS members. Region 18 (546), and Region 4 (529) hold second and third places respectively. Regions 3, 5, 15, and 18 have shown growth over the past twelve months.

2. The Life Member Census program, a cooperative effort between the RVPs and the Membership Secretary, was highly productive.

3. The Membership Office recently embarked upon a program encouraging groups to consider ongoing sponsorship of an AIS membership at a local library, so that the Bulletin may be available to library patrons who may become AIS members. The Logan Iris Society of Region 12, Dr. Jeffrey Walter, President, was commended for adopting the Logan Library of Logan, Utah and for supporting the Adopt a Library! program.

Additional Membership topics:

Life Membership Cards:

Hudson stated that he has the computer equipment and laminating machine to reproduce the AIS Life Membership cards which will have the logo and a pre-printed signature of the President.

Membership Record-keeping:

President Aitken described the three concepts that have been proposed for updating the Membership Secretary record-keeping system. The first two concepts come from Gary Pfingsten of Pfingsten Computing Service, whom Aitken has worked with in the past with good results.

Concept #1: Regional officers would be able to go directly to a website to access information that would apply only to them. There would be security codes for access to this proposed website.

Concept #2: The AIS database would be converted from Paradox to Access 2000 or some other modern database management system. After completing Phase 1 of this project (which included learning about the existing database, the various tables of data to be included and the types of information that would be stored in order to accomplish the objective of record-keeping and reporting to the membership), Pfingsten's proposal for Phase 2 is the actual programming work to complete the conversion.

The Cost Summary for this work is below:

Programming fees (without help system or user manual): \$5,850 - \$7,350

User manual: \$1,200

Help System: \$1,200

Adobe Acrobat 5.0 at the office: \$200

Adobe Acrobat reader at the regional sites: \$ 0

PcAnywhere remote control software (optional): \$139

Website hosting for business site purpose at Platinum Web: \$50/month

Website hosting for general website (if separate one used): \$40/month

Internet Service Provider: Varies with type

Concept #3: Jones and M. Lowe suggested and discussed a stock program called FileMaker Pro. This program can be loaded to do the same database functions, but without the web access described above. The software costs about \$200 - \$250. Jones suggested that the main priority is to get the current records (which are on a 10-year old system) onto new technology and then look at the choices of how to distribute reports. Mahan moved, Hudson seconded that the FileMaker

Pro software be installed and its report capabilities to meet AIS needs be investigated further. Motion carried.

Registrar: J. Plank read the report from Keppel.

1. Eight hundred copies of the 2001 Registrations & Introductions booklet were printed.

2. For the 2001 Registrations Year (12-1-00 to 11-30-01) there were 964 irises registered and 683 varieties introduced. Forty percent of the registrations were for irises originating outside of North America.

3. Hybridizers and introducers should be aware that when the Registrar is home, names can be cleared within 48 hours of phone, email or mail requests. The fastest and best way to clear names is via email.

Recording Secretary: No report.

Publications Sales Director: See Storefront information given under Treasurer Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. AIS ByLaws: Epperson distributed a Working Draft dated 4-21-02 of the ByLaws. Proposed changes were marked for discussion and involve doing business by electronic communications, relocating various sections within the ByLaws to a more logical place, defining a Board Executive Committee, and resolving the disparity between the ByLaws and the RVP Handbook description regarding the term of office of the RVP Representative. Active discussion ensued. Epperson asked for input of any other changes the group thought should be considered, so that a revision of the entire document by the Committee can be done at one time. Epperson stated he hopes that recommended revisions can be presented at the Fall Meeting. Board members will receive proposed revisions in advance of this meeting.

B. Pesticide/herbicide ads in the Bulletin: R. Plank discussed the questions raised at a previous Board Meeting about the decision to accept/reject pesticide/herbicide ads in future issues of the Bulletin. Plank did some legal research and determined that publications are under no duty to investigate any ads and/or their claims prior to printing them. There also is no law that the 501(c)(3) designation (because it is a public benefit corporation) would trump the ability of a publisher to reject advertising.

C. Status of New Display Screens. J. Plank read the report from Olive Rice Waters. Two new display screens are in place with new headboards reflecting The Society's 1920 beginning date.

D. Mahan reported that we received reimbursement from the insurance firm of Berens & Berens on March 12, 2002 in the amount of \$425.00 for the porcelain Boehm iris that broke during shipping to the Library.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A. Operations Manual: Epperson reported that the Operations Manual will be a looseleaf, 3-ring binder format and will include the following topics:

- History of The American Iris Society
- List of all AIS Presidents
- Organizational Chart of AIS
- Current ByLaws of AIS
- Standing Rules of AIS
- Position Descriptions of all Officers
- Position/Task Descriptions of each Standing Committee
- RVP Handbook
- Convention Handbook

As of April 24, 2002 the Manual is approximately 50% complete. A full draft will be available at the Fall 2002 Board Meeting.

B. Bulletin Indexing: President Aitken reported this is substantially done, and it should be loaded and up and running shortly.

C. Ad-Hoc Committee--RVP Handbook Revision: Probst reported that 100 copies have

been printed for distribution at this meeting, one to each Board member and each RVP at the Convention. It was pointed out that the minutes of the Fall Meeting reflect that a draft was to be distributed to the Board for review prior to final distribution. Epperson confirmed this. R. Plank suggested that the 100 copies be marked as Working Draft and distributed to Board members and RVPs. RVPs were asked to forward their suggested changes to M. Sutton (pro-tem RVP Rep) before the end of the bus tours in Memphis.

D. Non-profit Incorporation Tax Exempt Status: R. Plank reported that Regions 2,3,4,5,6,9,11,13,15,19,24, Sections: MIS, SJI, SIGNA, and SPCNI have completed their requirements for Internal Revenue code Section 501(c)(3) status. Regions 8, 10, 18, 22, and Section RIS are in the process, and others have been invited to start.

E. Surplus Bulletins: C. Meyer distributed copies of and read her report. The cost of mailing out surplus Bulletins is almost the same as the revenue generated from their sale. Meyer moved, Pope seconded that a new fee schedule for purchase of surplus Bulletins be instituted effective July 1, 2002, as follows: \$7.00 for 25 Bulletins and \$10.00 for 50 Bulletins. Motion carried.

F. Ad-Hoc Committee--Racetrack Design: Jones will report status at the Fall Meeting. Jones is working on scaling down the AIS logo so anyone can download and adjust it to any size for any publication.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Affiliates: Chairman Pope distributed copies of her report showing the approved affiliates by Region. She pointed out that there are 178 affiliates to date, Region 16 now has two affiliates, three affiliates have disbanded, three affiliates decided not to affiliate this year, and two affiliates have not renewed yet.

Affiliate Contest: Pope read Chairman Keup's report. A total of 21 affiliates nominated their clubs. The winner, Elmholtz Iris Society from Region 20 scored 440 points. First runner up was the Capital Hudson Iris Society from Region 2, and the second runner up was the Ft. Worth Iris Society from Region 17. All winners will receive 2002 iris introductions. Keup looks to a greater participation rate this year. The goal will be to receive at least one nomination from each Region.

G. Snyder related the interaction of the new membership renewal policy (approved earlier) and the affiliation process. He stated that all officers of affiliates must be AIS members, and this status currently is checked only at the beginning of the year. President Aitken observed that affiliates elect officers at all times of the year, and it has been policy that the Affiliates Chair checks AIS membership status only at affiliate renewal. With email, clubs and affiliates can contact the Member Secretary regularly to check on member status as needed. President Aitken tabled this discussion by stating that the current system seems to work best for now. No further action taken.

Awards: Chairman Epperson read his report. Official Ballots have been mailed to 695 Accredited Garden, Active Master, and Emeritus Judges. The total cost of the preparation and mailing of 760 Official Ballots (65 were marked VOID and sent to Apprentice Judges) was \$1,076.69.

There is still no data on HC awards for the JI iris for the 2001 voting year. All of the JI ballots went to the former Awards Chairman and contact with him has been difficult. Epperson requested copies of an AM and HM certificate be sent to him for reproduction and he will check on whether any of these certificates were previously sent out. If not, he will do so.

Keeper Trophy: Epperson will bring one or all of the trophies with the AIS racetrack seal to the Fall Meeting. Trophies will actually be an 8" x 11" plaque that will be given to the winners of the permanent cups (President Cup, Franklin Cook Cup, and Walther Cup).

Calendars: J. Plank read the report from Waters. Work proceeds on schedule for the 2003 calendars, and Waters requests submissions of photos for the 2004 calendar. A total of 3,500 calendars for 2003 have been delivered to the Storefront, and Whitehead has sent labels for

announcement letters to affiliates, RVPs and Board members.

Convention Liaison: Chairman Gossett handed out a schedule of future National Conventions and Fall Board Meetings. He reported that the hotel for the 2003 National is now the Fairview Park Marriott in Falls Church, VA. Hudson mentioned that the distance from the airport to the hotel in Santa Rosa (for the 2004 Convention) is 45 minutes from the Oakland airport and also from the San Francisco airport. Both airports will have a bus or shuttle to get people to the hotel.

Probst reported that he has received an invitation from the Greater Kansas City Iris Society to host the Fall Board Meeting November 3-5, 2006. Probst moved, Pope seconded to accept this invitation. Motion carried.

Electronic Services: Chairman Jones reported that the Gift Shop business has been up and down.

There are no new issues concerning the Webmaster. Chris Hollinghead is doing an excellent job with the information he gets and there is good turnaround on updating the website.

Work continues on the on-line checklist. Editing of the 1969 checklist and formatting the 1999 checklist also continues. Jones has a very supportive team assisting him and progress is being made.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM to be resumed on April 25, 2002 at 8:15 AM.

President Aitken brought the meeting back to order on April 25, 2002 at 8:15 AM.

Exhibitions: Chairman Leader reported that there have been 173 Shows to date and two cancellations due to weather.

Epperson read the status report of the Exhibitions Committee (Show Supplies). As of April 22, 2002, ninety-eight (98) orders for supplies for Accredited Shows for 2002 have been received. Ninety-five have been shipped. The total income amount is \$9,748.25.

Foundation Liaison: Foundation Trustee Honkanen summarized the report by Chairman Mazur. The Foundation has been fortunate in receiving many new worthy requests from talented researchers in the field.

A grant of \$5,000 went to Dr. Arnis Seismus to study Juno irises in Syria. His work would include: proposed studies in the field, collecting herbarium, and molecular and cytogenetic work on living material that would likely contribute significantly to the future monograph on subgenus *Scorpiris* as well as a taxonomic revision of them for Flora of Syria.

A second grant for \$5,260 went to Yuval Sapir for the study on *Oncocyclus* populations in Israel. Many of the areas that are home to various *Oncocyclus* species are being destroyed because of the human population growth.

Dr. Rodionenko been preparing many articles for publication in the last year, and the foundation continues to support him in his work.

Other funding requests for various projects have been approved.

As a result of the death of Jim Loveland, a foundation trustee from Missouri, his wife, Doris, has accepted his post. She will handle all matters relating to the incorporation of the Foundation in that state.

Honorary Awards: Chairman Mahan stated that all medals and awards were on hand for the Awards Banquet at the close of this Convention.

Insurance: Chairman M. Snyder summarized her report. Since September 11th, people are paying higher insurance premiums. Traveler's Insurance sent notice that if AIS renews with them, the annual premium will be approximately \$28,000 vs. the \$7,000 now being paid. This, however, will not affect the Directors & Officers coverage which is separate. Group discussed the options available such as dropping the coverage on the Library and/or the Storefront and just keeping the

liability and umbrella coverage. Snyder will get quotes with or without various combinations of the above. She also may look into a higher deductible. Snyder notified the Board that a decision will need to be made before the July 1st policy renewal date, which is before the next Board meeting, so she will pass along information as she gets it.

Despite the above, Traveler's has agreed to cover the gardens on tour at the National at a cost of \$300 for the three days. Snyder recommended that this cost be borne by AIS and not the local Club hosting the National. Epperson moved, Gossett seconded that AIS pay the coverage for the tour gardens at Memphis and at all future National Conventions. Motion carried.

Snyder has also informed Traveler's to amend the named insured on the AIS policy to read The American Iris Society, its Regions, Sections, Affiliates and all members thereof. This should eliminate the need for clubs to get separate insurance for non-AIS members. The named insured will be shown as above if AIS moves to a new carrier.

Judges: Gossett read the report from Co-Chairmen B. & H. Nichols. The Report listed by Region those Judges that have deceased since the last report. The list also included by Region those Judges who have been deleted from the Roster for failure to renew their AIS membership as of 4-1-02.

G. Snyder brought up a problem with a Judge in Region 15, Jim Puckett, who was told by the ARVP from Region 15 that he had been dropped from the rolls for not voting the last two consecutive years. Puckett had also been told that because of the mix-ups during the 2001 voting year, that no Judge would be dropped for failing to vote during the last two years because the records may not be accurate. After some discussion, Mahan moved, M. Lowe seconded that Judge Puckett be reinstated to the Judges Roster as an active Judge retroactive to January 1, 2002. Motion carried.

Board went into a lengthy discussion about the Jeanette Graham issue. Ms. Graham, a Judge trainee, is in disagreement with former AIS RVP and Board member C. Meyer and present AIS Region 11 RVP E. Allison over what paperwork she is required to have to advance to the position of Apprentice Judge. Detailed paperwork has been gathered on this issue from the parties involved. After further discussion Mahan moved, Jones seconded that the Judges Chair has the authority to decide this issue. Motion carried.

Judges' Handbook: Chairman Epperson reported that the last Judges' Handbook was published in 1998 and that the Board voted at that time to review and revise the Handbook every five years. Epperson has not received sufficient changes to warrant a revision in 2003 and suggests delaying this until 2004.

Library: J. Plank read the report from the absent Chairman McNames. Epperson moved, G. Snyder seconded that the list of items included in the report to be donated by the Library to the 2002 Silent Auction be approved. Motion carried.

Report detailed the number of boxes (71) received from the previous Historian. All boxes have been gone through and relevant materials have been input on the computer database and filed away. There are 13 boxes of AHS materials that remain. The AHS does not want them. McNames will contact other flower societies to see if they are interested in them. He also has 8 boxes full of various Garden Magazines (mid 1990's to 2001) that await disposition. Mahan moved, Gossett seconded that the boxes of magazines and AHS materials be gone through for future Silent Auctions over the next several years. Motion carried.

Membership Contest: No report at this time. The contest was described in detail on page 94 of issue 324 of the Bulletin, and the winner for 2001 for the affiliates was the Bluegrass Iris Society, Region 7, with 250 points. The runner-up was Columbus Iris Society, Region 6, with 140 points. The Youth Division winner was Nicole Grzeskowiak, Region 18 with 340 points.

New Historic Iris Chronicles: J. Plank read Chairman Whitehead's report. Multiple invitations have been sent out seeking knowledgeable people to prepare a chronicle on a particular

hybridizer. Opal and Henry Wulf have agreed to chronicle Alan Ensminger. Mrs. Willott is working on the Welch New Chronicle. Anne Lowe is working on Orville Fay. Nancy Nies has made great progress with her work on a chronicle of her grandfather, Eric Nies. C. Mahan, who is chronicling Dr. Currier McEwen, hopes to have a first draft for review within a few months. Phil Edinger has dropped out of doing a chronicle on Ben Hager due to professional commitments. M. Sutton suggested that Sid Dubose may be a good contact for completing the chronicle on Ben Hager.

Policy/Historic Research: Co-Chairman M. Lowe distributed copies of the report along with a CD of the Board minutes from 1988 to 2001. Co-chairman A. Lowe summarized the report. The Lowes are still exploring the means of making AIS policy available in a format that is both user friendly and comprehensive.

Public Relations/Marketing: Chairman J. Poling reported that she is working on an AIS PR pack that will include a letter from the President, an Invitation to Join brochure, back Bulletins, and back calendars. Poling has prepared a list of ad agencies, magazines, and TV shows where she might pass out this information. Poling requested that all possible promotional contacts be sent to her.

Rare Iris Study Center: No report.

Robins: J. Plank read the report for absent Chairman Cross. The new Robin brochures are working well, and more robin members are signing up. Cross gathered the following information on the Robin Program:

- 3 Regions of the responding RVPs have Regional Robins.
- 1 Region has a Robin for board members only.
- 9 have no Regional Robin, nor do they belong to a Robin.
- 8 Sections/Societies do have Robins, 4 of which are e-Robins.

The Section Robins currently operating are Aril, JI and 2 Siberians ones. Cross hopes to have further information about individual participation in Robins in the Fall.

Flight Lines: Chairman Weixlmann reported that currently he just takes excerpts from the email Robins and, under topic headings, he puts these in the Bulletin.

RVP Representative and RVP Counselor: M. Sutton, pro tem RVP Representative for JaNeice Mull, reported the points brought up at the RVP meeting held earlier.

1. RVPs would like email addresses to be included in membership lists.
2. RVPs would like a RVP email-Robin set up.
3. Three RVPs have no RVP Handbook at all--old or new. Epperson responded that he could send copies of the old one to them.
4. The conflict between the dates shown in the ByLaws and when the RVP terms actually begin and end should be clarified. Currently, the new RVPs begin their term at the close of the Spring Board Meeting and the terms run until the close of the next Spring Board Meeting. It was recommended that a ByLaws change be effected to correct this. Epperson suggested taking this out of the Bylaws and adopting a Standing Rule to set the RVP term of office.
5. The RVPs did not support the idea of an Executive Committee of the Board.
6. The RVPs requested that all RVPs who attend the Board meetings get copies of the reports.
7. RVPs believe that all Show Schedules should state that approved AIS Shows be held in venues that are handicap accessible if the Shows are held in a public place. Epperson was not sure that the AIS had that power. He was not sure that the AIS could require that all shows be held in handicap accessible places.
8. RVPs believe that there should be a separate Artistic Division approval for that part of the Show Schedule so that National requirements are met. Epperson commented that the Show

Schedule should state which rules are being followed, since the AIS has rules for artistic competitions in the Handbook are different from the rules used by state garden clubs.

Chairman Probst continued with additional points. He suggested that the Board of Counselors be renamed the RVP Meeting. After some discussion no motion was made. A. Lowe commented that the 2003 Convention Schedule will show RVP Meeting in parenthesis following the term Board of Counselors to help alleviate some of this confusion. This item was referred to the ByLaw Revision Committee at the consensus of the Board.

Probst will keep the new draft of the RVP Handbook open for revision until July 1st. N. Pocklington commented that those who have no changes to the Handbook as drafted should let Probst know that, so that he hears from everyone, with or without comments. Probst will send revised email copies of the Handbook to all Board members and RVPs after July 1, after which time it will be considered a final draft.

On a housekeeping note, JaNeice Mull is still RVP Representative until 9-30-02 and she will remain on email and regular mailing lists until then. M. Sutton will be kept aware of activity in this area as well.

For next year the RVP Chair to the Board of Counselors will be Ray Keisling, Region 18 and Sandy Rawlings, Region 6, will be Secretary.

Scientific: J. Plank read the report from Chairman Fulton.

Dr. Currier McEwen has completed a draft of a report on the long-term AIS Disease Project and this report should be ready for publication soon.

In collaboration with Dr. McEwen and Sharon Hayes Whitney, Christy Hensler's putative JI X SIB hybrids growing in Dr. McEwen's garden have been evaluated. A report describing observations and conclusions, as well as an introduction to the genetic expectations if there were true hybrids, has been submitted to the Bulletin.

Scholarship/Grants: Epperson read the report from Chairman Shear. The Committee received two applications for the 2002-2003 award. The Committee unanimously recommends funding Lisa Karst, Portland State University, to aid her study of "Phylogeny of *Sisyrinchium* (Iridaceae): Genetic and Morphological Evidence." J. Plank moved, G. Snyder seconded to grant Lisa Karst \$1,500 to continue her work. Motion carried.

The Committee also received and approved a progress report from Marc McPherson, the 2001-2002 grantee. His final report is expected in May 2002.

Mahan suggested that Bill Shear investigate the academic community to find more people interested in applying for scholarship monies. President Aitken will ask Dr. Shear to be an accumulator of potential projects for further discussion and review by the Board. Mahan moved, G. Snyder seconded that the Board increase the Scholarship Budget to a \$5,000 annual amount. Motion carried.

Secretary of Donations: Chairman J. Plank summarized her report. Donation activity for the last six months is much the same as the previous six months. Donations remain slow in much the same manner as over the past two years. Contributions from all sources totaled less than \$4,000. Jeanne & Bob Plank, Treasurer Hudson, and Rosalie Figge will work together to see how more activity can be generated.

Section Liaison: The report by Mark was distributed. It listed all Sections and Cooperating Societies with names of the current President, Membership Secretary and Editor. Mark also included a list of Section Conventions scheduled from April 2003 through May 2006.

Silent Auction: Chairman Meyer summarized her report. Tall Bearded donations were up this year, and there were lots of excess copies of the Bulletin from the 1940's and 1950's. Several first time donors were included in the list of people donating this year.

Slides: J. Plank read the report from Chairman Mull which was for activity during the months of January - March 2002. Seventy seven requests for slides have been received to date.

Biggest challenge is getting contributions of slides from the hybridizers of their recent introductions. Most popular sets for rent are for the 2001 introductions, Trivia, and The Iris Family. Mull is starting on the program for 2002 introductions. A list of the slide sets available is on the AIS website. Board tabled until the Fall Meeting whether to promote/how to promote requests from outside The Society from people who are interested in using AIS slides.

Symposium: Chairman G. Snyder distributed copies of his report which included a list of 459 irises that will be on the 2002 Symposium Ballot. This report also included comments and issues that have come to the Chairman's attention.

1. Comments from the New England area mentioned that their favorite irises never make the list. Perhaps an independent regional popularity poll could be instituted.

2. The best iris hybridized will never be on the ballot if it was introduced outside North America. Perhaps the winners of foreign Dykes Medals could be added to the ballot for three years, if they are TBs.

3. One means of getting newer iris in the top 100 would be to re-instate the Iris Hall of Fame. Perhaps any iris that was in the top 100 for 10 years in a row or in the top position for 3 years could be put in the Hall of Fame and deleted from the Symposium.

Chairman Snyder had no specific proposals to make about these items at this time.

Youth: Chairman Jean Morris summarized her report.

Clark Cosgrove Memorial Award: There were 13 youths nominated for the award this year for Youth Achievement. First place went to Nicole Grzeskowiak of Herman, Missouri, Region 18. Second place went to Elizabeth Rocha of Ramona, California, Region 15. And in third place was Christopher Rust of Union, Missouri, also of Region 18. The winner receives \$400, the second place receives \$50 and the third place receives \$25. Group discussed the amounts of the prizes for this award and the fact that there is no General Youth Fund for donations. G. Snyder moved, Jean Morris seconded that the first runner up prize be increased to \$100 and the second runner up be increased to \$50 for the Clark Cosgrove Award. Motion carried.

Jay Ackerman Essay Contest: There were over 50 entries in the contest this year. The winner in the age 13 and older group was Amanda Cummings of Region 2. First and second runners-up were Nicole Pedersen of Region 21 and Charity Thompson of Region 22. The winner in the age 12 and under group was Kristen Laing of Region 4. First and second runners-up in this group were Stephanie Strauss of Region 17 and Allison Grzeskowiak of Region 18. Each of the winning youths will receive \$100 from the Foundation. The four runners-up will receive special prizes and all entrants will receive a free iris rhizome this summer. Mahan moved, Jean Morris seconded to commend Claire Honkanen for her work on the Essay Contest. Motion carried.

As of March 31, 2002, AIS youth members total 351, 241 regular youth members and 110 students in Classroom Iris Projects (CIP). Regions 2,4,5,10, and 20 still need a Regional Youth Chairman.

Morris commented that the youth can always use rhizomes. She requested people email her and she will send the names and addresses of youth needing the rhizomes. The Board and audience applauded Jean following her report.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chairman M. Sutton distributed folders with biographies of the potential nominees to the Board. She reported that 30 names had been suggested as possible nominees. Out of 12 finalists, the Committee picked 8 names as nominees for the four expiring Director positions:

Louise Carson, Region 22

Bill McVicker, Region 22

Ernie Henson, Region 9

Bill Mull, Region 4

John Jones, Region 14 (incumbent)

George Sutton, Region 14

John Ludi, Region 13

Bob Terpening, Region 5

Candidates were not notified specifically that they would be expected to take on significant

responsibilities as a Director. Committee decided to let President Aitken do this. The Board thanked M. Sutton and her Committee for all of their work.

President Aitken called twice for additional nominations from the floor. Tom Abrego placed the name of Rick Ernst in nomination as a write-in candidate. J. Plank called a third time for any added nominations from the floor. Epperson moved, Gossett seconded that nominations cease. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM to be resumed at approximately 9 PM following Executive Session to be held at 8 PM.

Meeting resumed at 9 PM following Executive Session.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NOMINEES:

President Aitken announced that the following four people will be the nominees for the four expiring Board of Director position:

Louise Carson, Region 22
 John Jones, Region 14, incumbent
 John Ludi, Region 13
 George Sutton, Region 14

NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

President Aitken announced the following members of the Nominating Committee:

Jean Morris, AIS Director
 Jeanne Clay Plank, AIS Director & First VP
 Ray Keisling, RVP Region 18
 Marsha VandeBrake, RVP Region 8
 Charlie Brown, Section Representative
 Sandy Rawlings, Alternate, Region 6

NEW BUSINESS

A. Storage of Tapes of Board Meetings: J. Plank brought up the question of what to do with the cassette tape recordings of previous Board Meetings. If they should be kept, for how long and where? Discussion revolved around how many tapes are involved and what information may be on the tapes that was not included in the approved written minutes, and that may be of value in the future to resolve issues that come up. Mahan proposed that they be disposed of. He felt that the printed minutes in the Bulletin are the official record. After further discussion, Mahan moved, J. Plank seconded that the Recording Secretary keep the tape recordings as long as he/she feels necessary and then destroy them. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. President Aitken announced the Fall Board Meeting will be hosted by the Ft. Worth Iris Society, Chairman Joe Spears, and will be held at the Wilson World Hotel in Irving, Texas from November 1-3, 2002.

2. President Aitken expressed many thanks from all of the Board to Elke Longworth and her Convention Committee members.

3. Mahan moved a special note of thanks, G. Snyder seconded to commend with great appreciation, Second VP Epperson for filling in at the last minute as the Regional Judges Training Chairperson among other unexpected jobs that were not anticipated. Motion carried and the audience applauded.

J. Plank moved, Epperson seconded that the meeting adjourn at 10:05 PM. Motion carried.

Jill Bonino
 Recording Secretary

AIS Storefront

Sale Items & Publications

The World of Irises

Highly recommended! 32 pages of full color. Edited by Warburton and Hamblen, 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. Published in 1978 and most authoritative book on all phases of irises. Scientific and popular. 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover, 526 pages. \$27.00
Quantity discounts: 20% off for 10 or more / 40% off for 100 or more

Handbook for Judges and Show Officials

New release! Sixth Edition ©1998. \$15.00

Basic Iris Culture. Booklets. Great information for new iris growers. Ideal for clubs or shows. \$1.50 ea., or 25 for \$15.00 domestic/\$20.00 overseas

Convention Handbook. Free

AIS Bulletins: Back Issues (not all issues available).

\$2.00 ea. domestic/\$4.50 ea. overseas

Check Lists: 1939, 1949, 1959, 1969, & 1979.

Reprint. Soft cover. \$14.00 ea. domestic/\$20.00 ea. overseas

Check Lists: 1989 or 1999

Hard cover. Ten-year compilation of registrations.

\$17.00 ea. domestic/\$25.00 ea. overseas

Registrations and Introductions: 2001.

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Go to: www.irises.org

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75th Anniversary Bulletin. \$2.00 domestic/\$4.50 overseas

Bronze 50th Anniversary Medals

The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards. \$2.50

AIS Seals (50 per pack)

Self-adhesive ovals are larger than a half dollar. Official design in blue and green on silver background. \$2.50, 1 pack; \$10.00, 5 packs

2003 Iris Calendar

\$6.00 each, or \$33.00 domestic/\$40.00 overseas for packs of 10

Iris Post Cards (16 per pack)

\$4.00, 1 pack

\$10.00, 3 packs

\$25.00, 10 packs

AIS can now accept VISA & Mastercard (sorry, no other charge cards) for Storefront orders (minimum order: \$10.00). When charging your order, please include card type and number, expiration date, phone number, and signature.

Prices include postage and handling. Make checks payable to The American Iris Society, or include charge card information. Send order to:

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In this book William Shear, a 40-year veteran of iris growing, shares his expertise in choosing, planting, growing and propagating exquisite irises of many types. Cultural advice for the most desirable and adaptable iris types allows the gardener to choose the irises best suited to his region of the country.

Single copy: \$17.00 domestic/\$25.00 overseas, postpaid

Affiliates & Sections, 10 or more copies: \$14.00 domestic/\$20.00 overseas each, postpaid.

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Reliable Iris of the 1980s

Reliable Iris of the 1990s

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2000 Introductions

2001 Introductions

2002 Introductions

Beardless Irises

Beautiful, But Little Known Iris

Median Bearded Iris (MDB, MTB, SDB, BB, IB,)

ReBlooming Iris

Unique and Novel Irises

Japanese Iris

Louisiana Iris

Siberian Iris

Arils and Spuria Iris

Subgenus scorpis - (juno)

Iris Trivia: This is a small set with questions that can be used for fun and informative meetings. It takes about an hour (per set average), using the slides, asking the questions and getting the audience response. E-mail for further details

The Iris Family: This set is an introduction to the world of iris. It shows the different classes of bearded iris and the different species of iris. It can be used for all levels of viewers, new to experienced iris growers. Great for garden club programs

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Only one set is allowed per request date. Slides are to be returned by Priority Mail the day after viewing.

Cost: The rental fee is \$10, payable to AIS, and mailed to the Slides Chair, Bill Mull, at the address listed in the front of the Bulletin (page 4). Affiliate Chapters are entitled to one free set per year.

AIS Bulletin Ad Rates

"Without advertising, a terrible thing happens... nothing!"

Ad Submission Requirements

To place an ad, please contact the advertising editor. All ads must have a hard copy submitted to the advertising editor. List of specifications regarding digital submissions is available. Payment is due with ad copy. The deadlines for ad submissions are as follows: September 1 (October issue); December 1 (January issue), March 1 (April issue), June 1 (July issue). Send ad and payment (payable to AIS) to: Harold Peters, 2048 Hickok Rd, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762; (916)933-3804; Fax: (916)933-0878; email: <Harold@directcon.net>.

Shopping Section

Found in the back of each Bulletin. Placement is roughly alphabetical. Rate is for 4 issues. All ads are 2½ inch wide.

\$42.00	1 15/16 inch
\$58.00	1 15/16 inch
\$73.00	2 15/16 inch

Display Advertising

Black & White:

\$35.00	1 inch	1 x 4¼
\$46.00	¼ page	1⅞ x 4¾ (wide), or 3¾ x 2½ (tall)
\$58.00	⅓ page	2½ x 4¾ (wide), or 7½ x 1½ (tall)
\$81.00	½ page	3¾ x 4¾ (wide), or 7½ x 2½ (tall)
\$104.00	⅔ page	5 x 4¾
\$115.00	¾ page	5⅝ x 4¾
\$138.00	Full page	7½ x 4¾

Color:

\$115.00	½ page, interior page.
\$193.00	Full page, interior page.
\$175.00	Full page, interior page, 4 consecutive issue discount.
\$280.00	Full page, inside back cover.
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Bulletin of the AIS Shopping Section

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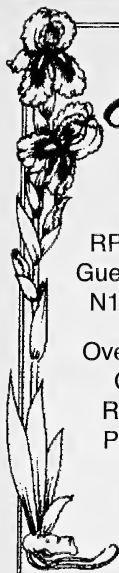
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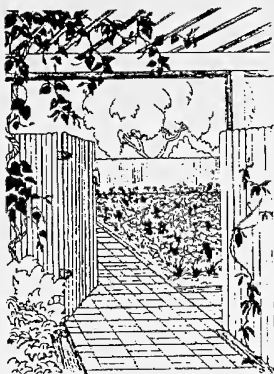


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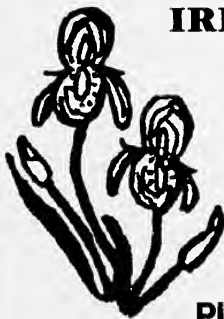
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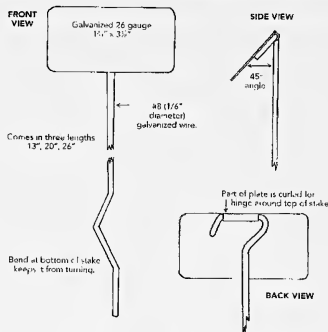
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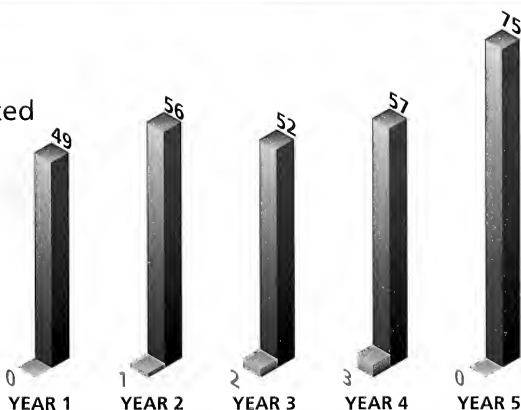
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President's Cup, 2002



TENNESSEE BICENTENNIAL (John Pierce, 1996)

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Photo: T. Anken



Tennessee Bicentennial Iris Garden at Memphis Botanic Garden

NOV 14 1978

West Tennessee Iris Garden



Photo: R. Plank

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AIS Bulletin

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The American Iris Society

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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED February 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the Iris.

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President's Message

by Terry Aitken, Washington State

OUR IRIS ACTIVITIES ARE WINDING DOWN FOR THE LONG winter ahead. It is time to contemplate our achievements. We review our own garden, the club activities, the regional and national conventions, perhaps even international events. How can we improve in the coming year? Those of us with administrative assignments would really appreciate FEEDBACK from the membership on how we can do our jobs better or how we can make the Society run more smoothly and be more "user friendly."


Quite early in the (editing) game, I quickly discovered that what was meaningful to one person is not necessarily meaningful to someone else. In our activities and in our publication, it is our goal to provide "something for everyone." This is a tall order, but if you, the members, feel we are missing some subject, please bring it to the attention of your RVP, a board member, a chairperson, the editor, or myself. We will work on it.

At the spring convention, I discussed how the Society is constantly confronted with change. Our present evolution involves the impact of internet communications on our lives. In the last six months of AIS business, I have written less than five letters, made less than 20 phone calls, but have logged in more than 2000 e-mail messages. This is obviously the preferred method of communication!

AIS administration is in a constant state of flux. We mourn the loss of Carryl Meyer who handled the silent auction and the surplus *Bulletins*. We shared the great stress of Irv and Nancy Pocklington last winter when Nancy became ill; they have moved back to Illinois, and Nancy is recovering and looking forward to new assignments on the



Terry Aitken, AIS President

Board. Anner Whitehead has retired as Membership Secretary after two years of intense work. She has compiled a highly detailed operations manual for the Membership Secretary, a guide which will benefit the Society for many years to come. We thank you, Anner, for your service to the Society above and beyond the call of duty! On another front, Sara Marley is preparing to retire after years of faithful service to the Society. Family health problems and another move, this time to Ohio, have complicated her life. Sara has provided constant assistance through times of crisis for myself and other board members. The American Iris Society is served by many dedicated members, whose hard work is greatly appreciated. 

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Editor's Message

by Bruce Filardi, Oregon

A FEW WEEKS AGO, I RECEIVED NEWS THAT THE CITY Council of Florence, Italy, was planning to revoke the land used for the International Iris Competition. I prepared my Editor's Message on that topic, and I must say that it was a literary masterpiece. Luckily for us all, however, members of the Italian Iris Society were able to take rapid action, and the Competition Garden will remain intact, at least for the near future. My aforementioned masterpiece will remain unpublished, to be found someday and marveled over by iris historians; and now, at the last minute, I find myself in need of a new Editor's Message.

This issue of the *Bulletin* marks the completion of my first year as Editor. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all those who have helped me in the last year, especially those who wrote the articles. Without your articles, we simply would not have a worthwhile *Bulletin* — thank you! Special thanks to Anner Whitehead, Jean Morris, Roy Epperson, Erica Bjerning, and Harold Peters; each of you played an inestimably valuable role in all of the last four issues. And a resounding expression of gratitude to Barbara and Terry Aitken, who have provided tremendous support and guidance in getting me “on my own two feet” as Editor.

Photo credits were omitted on page 49 of the July issue of the *Bulletin*. Briana Hargett's photo was taken by her mother, the picture of Currier McEwen was the work of Bob Sawyer, and I plead guilty to the photo of Bennett Jones and POND LILY.

As this issue includes garden reviews from this year's National, I'd like to include another poem from Gladys Crump Pierce, our “poet laureate” of the Memphis Convention, on the following page.



Bruce Filardi, Editor

AFTER THE CONVENTION

by Gladys Crump Pierce

After Convention is over,
After the guests are gone,
After the last bloom's faded,
After the stalks are shorn,
Many a foot is aching,
Many a purse is small,
But fond are the memories that linger
After it all.

After Convention is over,
The feelings of 'let-down' attend;
It really was fun while it lasted,
But everything must have an end.
You're making plans for the future,
You hope to meet again next year.
You know there'll be friendships and laughter
And just as much fun as was here.



Youth Views

by Jean E. Morris, Missouri

Amanda Cummings and Kristen Laing Win Essay Contest

Claire Honkanen, Ackerman Essay Contest Chairman for the AIS Foundation, has announced the winning essay writers for 2002. Amanda Cummings, aged 13, of Region 2 won the \$100 prize in the contest's older category and Kristen Laing, aged 9, of Region 4 was the \$100 winner in the younger age bracket.

There were 48 entries this year and we thank the Foundation for its sponsorship of this contest. The 2002 essay topic was, "Why, where and when I became interested in irises." The winning essays follow.

How I Got Interested in Irises

by Amanda Cummings

I got interested in irises at a very young age. My great grandma, Anna Mae Cummings has many irises and when I was little I always loved helping her in the garden. I got my first iris when I was about four years old, BARBI (Randolph 62). Of course I wanted BARBI because at the time I was playing with Barbie dolls.

In the spot where my grandma and I put BARBI, it didn't do very well. We moved it next to my deck and now I have more BARBI than my grandma. I even donated a lot to our annual iris sale and auction. I decided BARBI needed a friend so my grandma and I picked out LITTLE PAUL (K. Fisher 85) to put next to it. In later years I won my first blue ribbon in the horticultural division with LITTLE PAUL.

I now have about three beds. Last year I made two new beds of



Amanda Cummings

irises donated to me from our annual sale and auction and from Hermit Medlars Walk, the youth society and, of course, from my great grandma. I love belonging to the youth society, entering in shows and going on tours.

In June of 2000, Central New York hosted a mini HIPS convention which included my great grandma's garden. I helped people tour her garden. I got to meet Clarence Mahan and he taught me a lot of useful information that I still remember to this day. It was fun at the convention because I got to meet a lot of new people and I learned many new things.

My favorite irises are antiques; they are old and cannot be replaced. Some of my favorites include EXOTIC BLUE (Randolph R. 1957), ZULU WARRIOR (Tom Craig R. 1953), and last but definitely not least, MRS. HORACE DARWIN (Foster 1888).

There is so much to learn and I really enjoy irises. Members of Region 2 CNY have really made me feel at home, especially Donna James and Sara Marley. I hope to become more and more involved in the future.

As you can see, my great grandma is why and how I became interested in irises. Thank you, grandma, for opening my eyes to the wonderful world of irises.

How I Became Interested in Irises

by Kristen Laing

My mother has always been a lover of flowers and her mother before that. My mother and daddy have lived in several states, but mother found out one day that irises do well in Virginia. Two of her friends, Mary Ann and Phyliss gave her some irises. Phyliss invited her to come and visit the Central Virginia Iris Society. She did, and mother is now President of CVIS. We have lived in this house for about six years and daddy, poor daddy, he has to make more flower beds for mother and me.



Kristen Laing

I became interested in irises when I was four years old because of the colors and the different shades. When I was a very little girl I loved to pick the irises before they were completely opened. Mother used to

scold me for it but they were just so pretty. When I got a little older my daddy dug a spot up for me to plant my own irises and that became my garden. I have a raised bed for my bearded irises and a garden pool with a water iris called pseudacorus in it. The more I worked with my irises the more I wanted to know about them.

The people in the society have been so nice and have helped me so much that I really like going to the meetings and talking to them about my irises. That is why I like to attend iris meetings and regional conventions, to learn more and more about irises from the people who know so much about them. Lois Rose taught me how to prepare my irises for shows, and Mr. Loving gave me some really good ideas for how to arrange my garden. Mr. Mahan told me how to fertilize my irises and how much water they need. Dr. Spoon told me how to cross pollinate my irises so I could have my own seedlings and told me about the ones he bred that are named after members of his family. My goal is to make the best and prettiest iris garden with my own seedlings.

I have just sent in my application for judges training and I hope that I can become a judge. As for right now I plan on entering as many shows as I can. Last year I won several ribbons including best of show for the youth division at the Fredricksburg Iris Society and second place at the regional show. They didn't have a youth division at the regional so they let me compete with the adults, which was fun because I learned a lot more that way.

I am also going to continue crossing my irises for seedlings. I now have my first ones and I just can't wait to see them bloom! Who knows, I might even get good enough some day to have one win the Dykes.



Placing second and third in the Essay Contest's older group were 14-year-old Nicole Pederson of Region 21 and 15-year-old Charity Mae Thompson of Region 22. Stephanie Strauss, aged 12 of Region 17, and Allison Grzeskowiak, aged 10 of Region 18, placed second and third respectively, in the younger category. These youths received special iris prizes.

Others who entered the contest were: Lydia Masterson, Reg. 5; Kory Kuntz, Reg. 18; Jennifer Schmidt, Reg. 18; Stephanie Rust, Reg. 18; Laura Beach, Reg. 18; Cristina M. Baraky, Reg. 3; Jessica Johnson, Reg. 7; Alex Egbert, Reg. 22; Fred Hatler, Reg. 7; Matt Brooks, Reg.

18; Matt Knipshild, Reg. 18; Nick Yowell, Reg. 18; Tim Cornelius, Reg. 18; Christopher Rust, Reg. 18; Kim Elliott, Reg. 3; Jessica Hall, Reg. 22; Joshua Winzer, Reg. 18; Greg Jennewein, Reg. 18; Lindsey Schoen, Reg. 20; Kevin Radomski, Reg. 18; Elizabeth Shaw, Reg. 18; Rachel Hindle, Reg. 18; Hannah Masterson, Reg. 5; Christie Morgan Branch, Reg. 15; Shawnessey McVicker, Reg. 22; Ranell Archer, Reg. 14; Sarah Ann Elliott, Reg. 7; Amy Huhn, Reg. 18; Clayton Corn, Reg. 18; Kristina Griffith, Reg. 6; Ashley Scitern, Reg. 23; Meghan Elizabeth Fox, Reg. 6; Jared Lindbergh, Reg. 6; Christopher Davidson, Reg. 22; Jillian Taylor Fox, Reg. 6; Laura Davidson, Reg. 22; Mathew Cliburn, Reg. 18; James Christensen, Reg. 18; Clair Jewell, Reg. 3; Jessica Clark, Reg. 18; Raphael Fernandez, Reg. 4; and Kaameran Sternberg, Reg. 4.

The essays were outstanding and we thank everyone who entered. As many essays as possible will be published in the youth newsletter, THE IRIS FAN. Be sure to read the January *AIS Bulletin* for the 2003 Ackerman Essay topic and plan to enter next year's contest.

Clarke Cosgrove Nominations Needed

Now that several regions are initiating regional youth awards, we are hopeful of more nominations for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. But this will not happen automatically – someone still has to take action. That person would be YOU, along with your RVP, Regional Youth Chairman and, locally, the Youth Advisor or a club officer. According to the rules, ANY AIS MEMBER may nominate any AIS youth member for the award. Please use the following list as a guide:

- Grows a fine iris garden
- Actively hybridizes irises
- Writes for an iris publication
- Helps an iris organization through a committee or activity
- Visits local iris gardens at bloomtime
- Attends regional/national tours
- Is studying to be an AIS judge
- Promotes irises and/or the AIS to others
- Signs up new AIS members
- Competes enthusiastically at shows
- Experiments with irises
- Shows an interest in various iris classes and sizes
- Demonstrates leadership skills

Remember, youths need not participate in ALL of the above areas.

Complete your nomination by adding the youth's personal attributes and mail to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021 by January 31, 2003. You may e-mail your nomination <morrisje1@aol.com> but do not send as an attachment. Try to limit your nomination to two pages.

The Youth Committee will code the nominations to conceal identities and send them to a carefully selected panel of Judges. The winner will receive a trophy and a cash prize at the AIS Convention in Falls Church, VA. There are dozens of active AIS youth members, so do your part to encourage them by writing a nomination today. ❧



Frog at Stone Garden (page 30)

International News

We have recently received news from Sergey Loktev in Russia, with results of the International TB Competition and the Convention favorites.

Top Award Winners in the 7th Moscow International TB Iris Competition:


1. ALDO RATTI (Bianco, Italy)
2. KEEP THE PEACE (Grosvenor, Australia)
3. DOLCE ACQUA (Bianco, Italy)
4. MIR DLIA DVOIKH (Loktev, Russia)
5. PARFUM DE FRANCE (Ransom, France)
6. ISPOVED (Volfovich-Moler, Uzbekistan)

Most popular varieties on the Convention tour:

1. SANTA (Shoop)
2. HUCKLEBERRY FUDGE (Gibson)
3. HAUTE COUTURE (Gatty)
ROSY BOWS (SIB) (Bauer/Coble)
5. CELEBRATION SONG (Schreiner)
NOBLE CONTESSA (Blyth)
7. ARABIAN STORY (Blyth)
ENJOY THE PARTY (Blyth)
HELEN DAWN (Grosvenor)
KALIGAZAM (Grosvenor)
SIGH OF COLOURS (Blyth)
STARSHIP ENTERPRISE (Schreiner)

Our congratulations to the hybridizers of these fine irises.

From Australia:

We have just received news of the passing in mid-September of John Baldwin, who was for many years the Registrar for the Iris Society of Australia. We send our condolences and thoughts to his family and friends. 

AIS National Convention Gardens 2002

Memphis Botanic Garden

by Jim & Jean Morris, Missouri

It was a neat experience to visit the Tennessee Bicentennial Iris Garden at the Memphis Botanic Garden. This was the official iris garden of the state of Tennessee (the iris is the State Flower as well) and contained the Convention's master planting. Brenda Belus was in charge of the guest plantings and the vast majority of the stock was healthy and in peak bloom.

Designed in the shape of an amphitheater with a reflecting pool at its center, the garden was well-spaced for walking, note taking and photography. We visited this garden twice, on both the first and last days of the convention. And the garden did change, as some varieties of irises were just finishing bloom and others were just beginning.

When entering the iris garden one saw immediately the large clump of TENNESSEE BICENTENNIAL (96) by local stalwart John Pierce. A medium blue bicolor, it went on to win the President's Cup for best In-Region iris as voted by the convention attendees. Catching our eye and going on our "must have" list was the smoky pink LADY JANE (Lauer 01). We knew it was good in our memory, but when we had our slides processed we discovered that each of us had taken three pictures of the lady (iris).

Among the other irises that we liked were the following: LEAPS AND BOUNDS (Niswonger 01), white standards with a hint of blue over rosy brick with a red beard; SPLASHACATA (Tasco 98), pale violet over purple on white plicata; PEIGNOIR (L. Markham 96), nicely ruffled, pale true pink; IN THE CLOUDS (Christopherson 02), reverse blue bi-tone with cream beards; TRANS-ORANGE (Niswonger 99), floriferous, multi-stalked orange amoena; FRENCH CANCAN (Cayeux 01), pale peach over light blue with a bright tangerine beard; SHARPSHOOTER (Keppel 00), very light lavender-

blue standards over deep purple falls highlighted by reddish orange beards; and AMBROSIA DESSERT (Niswonger 01), bright gold-orange amoena that was well-branched.

A space-age iris we liked was HEARTBEAT AWAY (Christopherson 01), a light yellow with gold hafts and lavender-blue spoons. POSEIDON'S REALM (Colin Hill 99) was another in lavender, with an amethyst fall wash and mustard beards which extended to lavender horns. A Jimmie Burch future introduction, HEAVENLY HAZE, was showing nicely in pale blue with cream beards. GOOD HUMOR (Shoop 99) was a broad, rosy tan with red beards. Speaking of the ice cream man, DIFFERENT FLAVORS (Ghio 00), from a long line of browns, comes in bronze-tan over a deeper brown with a flash of yellow extending from the yellow beards.

BROAD SHOULDERS (Keppel 01) was a delicious buff over port wine; SAVANNAH SUNSET (Schreiner 00) was a rich orange with yellow undertones and red beards; IN YOUR DREAMS (L. Miller 00) was cream with violet midribs over orchid violet; SKY AND SUN (Spoon 99), ruffled sky blue self with golden yellow beards; CAPTAIN HOOK (Schick 01), lavender with darker fall centers, really dark beards and horns (the hook you see); BLUTIQUE (Messick 98), a broken color medium blue and white; and PALACE OF THOUGHTS (Ernst 00), was a cool blue-white with beautiful form and every terminal bloom at the exact same height. A row of this would be a sight to behold!

Region 7 hybridizer Tom Parkhill had two nice irises: MIAH JANE (01), a flared medium grey-blue with a lighter wash on the falls, making it a "dark top" in current jargon; and PARKRIDGE CHALLENGER (99), a ruffled dark bluish-purple self with even darker beards. WILD WINGS (Keppel 99) was simply stunning as a dark violet over black bitone with rusty orange beards. FROSTED FANTASY (Cadd 01), a ruffled pure white with a small horn, would be a perfect foil to some of the wilder colors or to ZIGGY (V. Keiser 00), a golden yellow over raspberry with broken color splashes of gold.

Siberian guests did not perform well and it was too early for the Spurias, but quite a few medians were blooming. Among the MTBs were: CRAFTED (Dunderman/Varner 01), creamy white with rosy pink plicata edging; FAIRLY DANCING (Wulf 98), a nice clump of lavender on white plicata with orange beards; CONNECT THE DOTS (L. Miller 01), such a clever name for this plicata of silver

lavender dotted dark lavender; AMONG FRIENDS (T. Varner 02), warm white over red-violet edged white with cream beards; MADAM PRESIDENT (Thurman 01) in gold with a mauve edge and wash; HOODSPORT (Craig 99) in rosy lavender with orange juice colored beards; and WISTFUL WISTERIA (Wulf 98), a well-shaped amethyst growing in an orderly and healthy clump.

In the Intermediates the devils led the way. DEVIL MAY CARE (Black 00), a red-black with red-orange beards was doing exceptionally well with 14 stalks in bloom that drew a crowd, and DEVILISH NATURE (Boswell 98) was a perky rosy mauve over violet edged mauve, with golden beards which extend to white horns. We saw KAHUNA (M. Smith 02) for the first time. It was in chestnut brown with a darker red center spot and orange beards.

Outstanding in the difficult BB class was LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE (Roderick 96), a ruffled reverse lemon yellow amoena with perfect proportion. PREPPY (Vaughn 00) was a two-toned plicata marked very light lavender on white over medium lavender on white. QUINALT (Craig 99) was growing in a nice clump, showing tan over magenta with lavender beards.

We made notes on many more irises and took way too many slides. We wish to extend our thanks to the Memphis Area Iris Society and Region 7 for a wonderful and memorable convention.

Dabney Nursery

by Dorothy Stiefel, New York

On a drizzly, overcast Saturday, customers at the Dabney Nursery were surprised to see hoards of eager Irisarians alight from busses and converge on a guest planting of bearded irises. Founded in 1982, the nursery specializes in trees; on April 27, 2002, blooming shrubs beckoned, but the day's main attraction was irises!

And the irises were very well grown. They were planted in raised beds of "good, well-drained soil" which were covered with landscape fabric and situated in full sun. "After that, they were on their own!" said owner Dabney Turley. They were not sprayed with anything, and they were "real easy." Although he is "not really an iris person," Dabney believes an iris was the first perennial he ever planted at the age of 6 or 7, and he enjoyed hosting the display bed.

We were fortunate to view the garden between rain showers. The characteristic “shredding” of some flowers caused by hailstones was mute testimony to stormy weather before our visit.

One of the first eye-catchers was Don Spoon’s seedling #93-84. It was putting up show stalks with deep purple blooms and a self beard lightly brushed bronze. Accompanying this seedling was Spoon’s MY GINNY (2000), also displaying superior stalks with flowers in pretty pastels: pink standards, lavender falls.

The next standout was BRIDGE IN TIME (Wilkerson, 1995). It was presenting as the model of a perfect garden iris with healthy foliage in a strong clump and many floriferous bloom stalks. It is white with a blue cast, especially in bud, and a yellow beard.

DEVILISH NATURE (Boswell, 1998), an IB of chocolate and maroon tones with violet horns and flounces, was also performing well, as it did consistently in other display gardens. Paul Black’s DEVIL MAY CARE (2000) was another floriferous IB which acquitted itself well; it is deep velvety purple-black with a striking orange beard.

CHOCOLATE CHESS (Moore, 2002) could have been LEMON CHESS (Moore, 1996) lightly brushed over with pastel brown. This very intriguing color was set off with a bright orange-gold beard.

Vince Christopherson’s SADDLE UP (Seedling R4-41A) was interesting and different, a “dark top” with violet-mauve standards and yellow-buff-melon falls sporting a muted tangerine beard. Hard to picture? Equally difficult to describe!

MAGIC MOONBEAMS, Seedling A4-195 AH (Christopherson, 2002) was also striking in appearance. The standards are white, shaded yellow. The falls are medium yellow with purple shading, and the bright yellow beards end in purple horns.

One of my own garden favorites, CELEBRATION SONG (Schreiner, 1993) was strutting its stuff, as it did in most other convention gardens. The melon pink standards and lavender falls offer a pleasing combination of pastel colors.

By this time, the crush of conventioners around the irises was becoming acute, and my attention was diverted by a glimpse of banana trees! If I could have A) figured out some way to get it home on an airplane, and B) had the slightest chance of actually growing the thing in upstate NY, I could have purchased a real, “hardy” banana tree in a 7 gallon pot for \$29.98. Wow! The beautiful flowering hibiscus plants in

shades of pink, yellow, salmon and red also beckoned. There were many more worthy plants to view and the nursery owner to talk to... Soon time was up! We would definitely have enjoyed a longer visit to this garden!

Thank you, Dabney Turley, for sharing your time, expertise, and beautiful plants with members of the American Iris Society.

LeBlond Garden

by Judy Keisling, Missouri

Shades of Scarlett O'Hara and Tara! Looking at the tall, stately white columns of Daniel and Ellen LeBlond's antebellum home just a few miles south of Memphis in Hernando, MS, had it not been for the sound of motorized vehicles rather than the clip clop of horses' hooves I could have well imagined that I had been transported back to the pre-Civil War era.

The guest iris planting was at the rear of the house. As I made my way down the long driveway leading to the iris beds, I was intrigued by the beauty of soon-to-be-blooming Southern Magnolias and thriving azalea bushes erupting with bright pink blossoms – a sight that's foreign to those of us who live in west-central Missouri.

Turning the corner at the back of the house, the first thing that caught my eye was the long rows of literally thousands of peony bushes, some of which were sporting huge red, magenta, and pink blossoms, and all of which were covered with fat, ready-to-burst buds. As a side note, in case you're wondering what in the world someone would do with over 4,600 peony bushes, Ellen is a popular regional source of cut peony blooms for florists.

Now, on to the guest iris. Although the weather in the weeks leading up to the convention was, I'm told, unseasonably cold and rainy, the guest plants rallied and were putting on quite a show. The vigorous stalks on Keith Keppel's CROWNED HEADS ('97) indeed wore many crowns; 3 of the 9 buds that I counted were open displaying wisteria violet standards over light blue falls. Other Keppel iris in bloom in the LeBlond garden that day included HAPPENSTANCE ('00), a lightly laced pink with ruffles and a coral beard, and SHARPSHOOTER ('00), which hit the mark with its lavender-blue standards and dark purple falls edged light violet.

LET IT RIDE (Schick '98), with its lightly ruffled gray blue standards and falls and deep orange beards, earned high marks for its outstanding branching, high bud count, and vigorousness. Brightly colored IDOL (Ghio '99), sporting golden apricot-orange standards and claret-wine falls, beckoned to me from across the garden, as did heavily ruffled ELEGANT GIRL (Cadd '00), dressed in a soft pink top edged shiny gold, and bottoms of light peach pink accented with deep orange horned beards.

Another Cadd introduction that merited a second look was TAKE ME AWAY ('01). A plicata with light lavender standards and white falls painted with reddish-lavender plicata markings and a small light lavender border, this iris elegantly stood head and shoulders above the other guests. EAGLE'S WING (Fan '97) appeared to be aptly named, as its flaring falls made it appear that this violet blue self with very deep blue beards was poised for flight; the same hybridizer's TRUE BEAUTY ('02) was appropriately named, with heavily ruffled pale pink standards and falls and contrasting bright orange beards.

As with any write-up of a garden with abundant bloom, it's impossible to describe every single guest or mention every single hybridizer who was represented. So, to mention as many as possible, I'll provide a quick review of others that were looking particularly outstanding during my visit to the LeBlond garden. An IB by Marky Smith, HARMONIUM ('02), a very bright yellow self with lighter edges on the falls, sparkled as the sun began to come out from behind the clouds on what had heretofore been a very overcast gloomy morning. CLOUDLING (Magee '01), a creamy ivory whose falls were heavily edged with violet plicata markings, was performing well, as was Pete DeSantis' SCOONCHEE ('97) with its plum-colored standards and darker plum falls.

While most of the guests had been formally introduced, there were a few seedlings in the crowd hoping for an introduction. I especially liked Merle Roberts' 97-93A, with white standards and flaring white rimmed yellow falls, and Lange's 18-93-9, a plicata with white ground and very, very heavy deep purple plicata markings.

As usual, the time on the tour was too short. However, my husband Ray and I "cheated" and drove down to Hernando the day before the tours began so that I would have more time to spend in this garden. Both Dan and Ellen were most hospitable hosts. In chatting with them, I learned that the original house on what is now their property was built by a riverboat captain and was shaped like a ship. That house was torn

down in the 1800s to make way for the existing house. Their wonderful antebellum-style home has been in the family for over 100 years, first being home to Dan's great-grandmother.

Our thanks to Dan and Ellen for sharing their garden, their time, and their stories.

The Longworth Garden

by S. Roy Spperson, North Carolina

The gardens of Elke and Nick Longworth are located on 150 acres. Their gracious home, which was built for entertaining as well as personal comfort, overlooks a beautiful lake. In the distance, at the edge of the nearby wooded area you can see Elke's breeding bee hives. She is an internationally known honeybee hybridizer and beekeeper. We had the pleasure of sampling some of her honey as one of the snacks in the garden.

As you approach the house you are greeted by the clematis *Henryi*, THORNBIRD, and an excellent clump of ROY DAVIDSON. To the left is the shade garden with hostas and other shade-loving plants. The main iris plantings are in a wide semi-circle at the rear of the house, following the contours of the lake in the distance. There is generous space for iris and other sun-loving plants. "Old Man's Beard", also known as Fringe Tree (*chionanthus virginicus*) and the dappled willow "Hakuro Nishiki" (*salix integra*) accented the two ends of the semi-circle. Along the fence separating the lawn from the meadow are several very interesting trellises with metal sculptures, serving as a support for clematis.

On to the irises: MIDNIGHT MOONLIGHT (Baumunk '00) has near-white S with dark purple F. This is a child of TWIST OF FATE. Paul Black's DEVIL MAY CARE ('00) is a dark purplish-black IB with orange beards. This was a standout in many of the tour gardens and especially here. DOUBLE CLICK (Ghio '01) is a heavily ruffled luminata with violet S lightening to cream edges, and red-violet F. It is reported to be remontant. There were excellent clumps of Fred Kerr's CHRISTIANA BAKER (BB-'99) and QUEEN'S CIRCLE ('00). Both of these have the blue band on white falls. LADY JANE (Lauer '01) is ruffled and to my eye is an oyster-salmon (although R&I says methyl violet). CHOCOLATE CHESS (Moores '02) is a smooth lightly ruffled mid-tan child of LEMON CHESS. SPLASHACATA

(Tasco '98) was putting on a show in all of the tour gardens. The space ager HOLY FIRE (Sutton '00) is a show-stopper: large white flowers with red beards and large white feathered horns! Others that caught my attention were: HUNTER PINK (Tim Stanek '00) with a saturation of color that reminds me of ONE DESIRE; MAUNA LOA FIRE (Rogers '00) is like glowing-flowing lava; and HIGHLANDS NUGGET (Ragle '02), a full gold.

In the front beds and to the left were *I. tectorum*, the *pseudacorus* ENGLISH WHITE with its red eye-zone, and a planting of more guest iris. Among the Siberians, MEMPHIS MEMORY (Steve Varner '90), a very-pale lavender-pink, was appropriately putting on a show, as were two nice clumps of Hollingworth's JEWELLED CROWN.

Look for these two future introductions from Vince Christopherson: MAGIC MOONBEAMS ('03), a buff-yellow amoena with lavender beard; and Seedling P4-197AF, a ruffled red plicata with yellow ground.

On leaving the garden, I was reading labels on non-blooming clumps of iris and I encountered this sequence: STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN, HALFWAY TO HEAVEN, ALMOST HEAVEN and then — much to my surprise and delight! — SMART ALECK. If you have not had the pleasure of meeting and getting to know Elke Longworth, this label sequence will give you an insight into the charming wit of this delightful woman.

The Madlinger Garden

by Jill Bonino, California

There is a line from the movie "The Wizard of Oz" that states "Poppies will put them to sleep." Well, that didn't happen at the Martine Madlinger garden in Arlington, Tennessee, on the morning of April 28, 2002. After a brief rain shower while we were on the busses, the sun broke through the clouds as we pulled up outside of Martine's country home. At first, I didn't even notice the house; I just saw a colorful field of red poppies and yellow mustard. Martine is a Master Gardener and is quite a fan of wildflowers.

Six long rows of irises had been planted out of the lawn, but they were not in raised beds as we had seen at some of the other gardens. Still, with wood chips keeping the weeds away from the plants and

providing a walkway for the trekkers, bloom was in abundance. There was also a row of guest iris perpendicular to the main rows of iris. The poppy and mustard field bordered this row. It was truly a beautiful sight in the morning sun.

Especially striking were two clumps of guest iris by Francis Rogers, CITRON FROMMAGE ('95) and BOMBAY GOLD ('99). Multiple stalks (12 each!) of gold and yellow glowed in the light, and pictures of these clumps were taken from many different angles. There were also some very nice clumps of older iris (not in the guest bed) such as ROLE MODEL (Denny/McWhirter '88) and SILVERADO (Schreiner '87). Some medians were still in bloom: FATHOM (IB Smith '97), DEVILISH NATURE (IB Boswell '98) and MINI BIG HORN (SDB Annand '98).

Walking around to the back of the house, I could see that it fronted a large lake. Among other foliage around a natural pond in the backyard bloomed *iris fulva*, *iris ensata*, and *iris versicolor*. The landscaping of the entire property was very natural, grasses mixed in with wildflowers such as phlox, violets and columbine. White and pink azaleas were blooming vibrantly up against the house. With the light breeze blowing through, it was a very relaxed and tranquil setting for a morning stroll.

The Nave Garden

by Shirley Dope, Maine

When Caroline Nave was asked to have a tour garden four years ago, she determined that her house and lot were too small for a tour garden. So she sold her house and purchased the one we saw on tour. The raised beds were constructed in the fall of '99 before Caroline moved in. The gardens we visited were only three years old.

The beautiful brick house had a huge magnolia on the front lawn. The wrought iron fence had border gardens lined with irises on the street side and rosebushes on the garden side.

Raised iris beds surrounded raised rose, lily, and hemerocallis beds. There were some beautiful dwarf rosebushes. The irises had suffered from an accidental two-week watering, by her gardener, while she was away last summer. Along with 67 inches of rain, Caroline's concern about the condition of the guest irises was justified.

The best tall bearded iris was ELEGANT PURSUIT (F. Kerr '01). This blue amoena had excellent vigor with two branches and 7-8 buds.

The standards were white, the falls light blue-violet with pale yellow beards.

Other irises doing well were: CELEBRATION SONG (Schreiner '93), with apricot pink standards and ruffled blue-lavender falls; MAGICAL ENCOUNTER (Schreiner '99), shrimp pink with bright pink beards; HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS (Duncan '01), a dark velvety purple; Anthony Lange's seedling TB 5-92-1, a small-flowered pink amoena; Lynda Miller's MTB seedling 10195A; and EMILY ANNE (Hollingworth '02), a cream colored Siberian edged with medium blue-violet.

The tall wooden fences at the back of the garden had gorgeous climbing roses, including 'Gift of Life,' a hot reddish-pink with bronze foliage, coral pink 'Dream Weaver,' and medium pink 'Royal Sunset.' Also along the fence was a wide border of shrubs and perennials. A beautiful clump of baptisia backed by an ornamental grass caught my eye. Mahonia (grape holly), helleborus still in bloom, several varieties of honeysuckle, astilbes, and hostas gave a pleasing mixed color and texture effect.

A beautiful pool with two waterfalls fronted a raised patio. A large clump of *I. pseudacorus* looked majestic between the waterfalls. Goldfish and koi swam among the water lilies. Potted Louisiana irises lined the front of the pool. They were RED DAWN (Rowlan '86), CLYDE REDMOND (Arny '71), BAYOU CLASSIC (Faggard '87), and SWAMP FLAME (Mertzweiller '87). A huge tulip tree shaded the raised patio. Pale blue *iris cristata* were blooming along the shaded side of the patio, where convention visitors enjoyed refreshments supplied by the Yorkshire Garden Club.

The back yard had raised vegetable gardens. Under the trees were hosta gardens lined with white impatiens. Some of the standout hostas were 'Blue Angel,' 'Fried Green Tomatoes,' 'Wheaton Blue,' and a huge 'Sum and Substance.'

The Nave garden showed the expertise of a Master Gardener. The excellent use of shrubs, perennials, and annuals was evident. Leaf color and texture are so important when landscaping.

West Tennessee Iris Society Garden

by Carol Warner, Maryland

The West Tennessee Iris Society excels at promoting irises to the public by maintaining a gorgeous display area on a busy corner in Germantown. In talking to Van Smith, I found that the garden was built in 1985 on a piece of ground that was formerly a rock storage area for the railroad. The city of Germantown allows the group to use the property at no charge as long as it is maintained. The Society has about 40 members of whom about 10 participate regularly in the garden maintenance. Excess iris rhizomes are used for their annual sales.

Bloom in this garden was about the best we saw on the convention tours. The irises are planted in raised timber-framed beds which add to the appearance of great height of bloom. A picturesque four-engine Norfolk Southern train rumbled by as I began to evaluate the performance of the guest plants.

One tall, huge single bloom of ENCHANTED MESA (Tom Magee '00) attracted attention immediately as we departed our bus. Being a Siberian nut, I was attracted to the single clump of CAESAR'S BROTHER blooming on the corner. It was growing well but other Siberians had not fared as well.

ARTIC AGE, a '99 Schreiner intro, was a laced snowy white self with a warm yellow beard. KINKAJOU SHREW (Kasperek '00), a streaked white on deep beetroot purple, was looking great here as well as elsewhere. AMIABLE, a Ghio '02 introduction with peach standards and wide lavender falls, had eight stalks but only four increases. Joe Ghio's seedling C94-143, a lavender amoena with an orange beard, was well branched; one stalk had three open flowers just ready to take Best in Show. CLEARWATER RIVER (Ernst '99) was a well-branched ruffled lavender with a deeper colored heart. PACIFIC CLOUD (Lauer '97) stood out with straight stalks and beautifully ruffled flowers! David Miller's SUMMER SOLSTICE had excellent form and is a bright spectrum yellow. Another very ruffled clear yellow seedling from Anthony Lange, 11-88-11, certainly caught my attention. Keith Keppel's SEA POWER served as the model for the flower on the promotional buttons handed out for the convention; it looked great here with straight thick stalks and quite ruffled flowers. HALO EVERYBODY (Rogers '98) carries a great clear yellow rim on the red falls to combine well with the gold standards. Schreiner's RUBY MORN ('02) had formed an extremely strong full clump and showed

off its deep wine red flowers beautifully. Kerr's border bearded CHRISTIANA BAKER looked very nice here too.

Many of the slightly older irises in the display beds were also looking wonderful. CONTINUITY is a very overlooked light blue violet with a deep blue beard from Sterling Innerst. Schreiner's CELEBRATION SONG could have won an award for "best clump". OLD BLACK MAGIC (Schreiner '96), NIGHT AFFAIR (Luihn '83), and HOLY NIGHT showed that deep purple-blacks still command attention. CARNIVAL SONG (Schreiner '94) displayed standout color with its peach standards and red plicata falls. Larry Lauer's SANDY BEACH ('98) was new to me; it is a pleasing pale EDITH WOLFORD-pattern. ALMOST HEAVEN (Niswonger '97) is also quite attractive, a smoky mauve with a blue beard and blue streak on the falls.

This group of irisarians with their president, Steve Stone, has done a great job in promoting irises in a public place. The city plans to change the road configuration this year and many of the outer beds of irises will be moved and then replanted with rebloomers and other perennials as companion plants.

Great job, folks!

The Hamilton Garden

by Joanne Drass-Jones, California

The third morning of garden touring started out just as threatening as the first. John and I had debated about whether to take an umbrella and decided against it. Luckily for everyone, the morning ended up crisp and sunny with high cirrus clouds moving overhead.

When first driving along the long narrow wooded road to the Hamilton Garden, one gets a sense of seclusion. The road ended at their house, Colonial style with dormer windows, lying on about three acres. The plantings in the center of the circular driveway included purple verbena and pine trees. Their large dog kept a watchful eye on all of us; he was a "Leonberger", an unusual unregistered breed, originating in the town of Leonberg, Germany.

The walk to the iris beds led us over a manicured lawn along the side of the house, trimmed with boxwoods, pine trees, and ivy. The yard was a quiet and pleasant park-like setting with large pine trees bordering one side. The Hamiltons have lived in their home eight years and developed the landscaping from the ground up. The property is

very private because it's on the end of their neighbor's 20 acres; it is completed with a large pond stocked with bass and a large fountain in the center. Included in this idyllic setting was a very inviting hammock that hung between two trees with geese wandering about. And it was an unexpected delight to see the fancy chicken coop surrounded by a white picket fence where several clucked about. We met "Tammy Fay", a white crested black Polish chicken who was carried around by Christie Hamilton as if she were a small dog! The path behind the chicken coop led up to the back porch planted with climbing roses, colorful pansies, azaleas, coleus, and peonies.

The two long iris beds on the side of the property were in full bloom. They were eye catching with LOTS of color! SCOONCHEE (TB, DeSantis, '97) displayed a large clump with ten sturdy bloom stalks all in bloom. BUGLES AND HORNS (TB-SA, Sutton, '97) was a standout with eight glorious bloom stalks. Showing off was an MTB SEEDLING C39-7 by Charles Bunnell, with several stalks. GHOST TRAIN (TB, Schreiner, '00) had four full stalks, all nicely branched with good increases. GOLDEN PANTHER (TB, Tasco, '01) was well recognized with its golden bronze color, ruffling, and nicely branched stalks. McKELLER'S GROVE (TB, Hager, '00) was striking with seven bloom stalks, flowers lightly ruffled with bushy orange beards. LACKAWANNA (TB-SA, Burseen, '00) had five stalks, beards being a very bushy purple. DANCING IN RUFFLES (TB, Cadd, '02) was pale yellow and ruffled, with beards lemon yellow in throat to white at end. HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS (TB, Duncan, '01) was not yet in bloom but had two well-branched stalks which were "ready to pop". EAGLE CONTROL (TB-SA, Sutton, '99) had six stalks of pale ruffled blue flowers, beards yellow in throat then white and blue at the ends. MADAM PRESIDENT (MTB, Thurman, '01) was commanding attention with nine stalks and clean foliage. LOCAL COLOR (TB, Keppel, '96) was very noticeable with its orange beards and seven stalks blooming above the foliage. HEARTBREAK HOTEL (TB, Sutton, '98) included seven stalks, clean foliage, red beards and nicely domed standards. DREAM EXPRESS (TB, Tasco, '99), a purple self, was attractive with large flowers and good branching. FRENCH ROSE (TB, Sutton, '98) had six stalks, the rosy blooms finished with tri-colored beards. PRINCESS OF PARADISE (TB, Cadd, '02) had eight stalks, stitched falls, style arms yellow with a lavender streak, blooming like crazy and very fragrant. TRUE BEAUTY (TB, Fan, '02) had six stalks of peachy self flowers with bushy coral beards.

A bright spot in the garden was SAVANNAH SUNSET (TB, Schreiner, '00), an orange self with orange beards. ANGEL HEART (IB, Aitken, '96) was a beautiful clump of 16 bloom stalks and good foliage. RASPBERRY JEWELRY (TB, Cadd, '01) had erect foliage and nine bloom stalks. VELVET BALLERINA (TB, Schreiner, '01) was all dressed up with twelve bloom stalks; white standards with purple flush and gilt edges, velvety purple falls with orange beards. PERFECT TOUCH (TB, Tasco, '01) was standing proud, a ruffled purple self, flowers showing off above the foliage. SEEDLING 4363-2 (TB, Innerst) was a light blue self, six stalks, with a pleasant fragrance. IDOL (TB, Ghio, '99) was a contrast with velvety purple falls, and orange standards and beards. CAJUN COOKING (TB, Rogers, '00) had bronze-orange standards, velvety orange falls with burgundy edges and orange beards, three stalks, good increase. SOTTO VOCE (TB, Hager, '00) had light peachy tan standards, glistening lavender-violet falls, erect foliage. MIDNIGHT MOONLIGHT (TB, Baumunk, '00) had very clean colors, white standards with purple flush, velvety dark purple falls with pale yellow beards. SIREN (MTB, Fisher, '00) put on a nice show.

Of course there wasn't enough time to thoroughly take in all the remarkable irises with their astonishing blooms AND properly enjoy the rest of the garden. Had I taken my book along you would have found me reading in the hammock, enjoying the "honking" of the geese flying overhead. Unfortunately, the Hamiltons were moving to Maryland at the end of the week and their house was being sold. Hats off to them for making a very inviting garden and sharing it with the rest of us!

Garden of Jean & Steven Stone

by Jeanne Plank, California

According to a novel garden-touring plan, all Memphis Convention buses were scheduled to visit the same group of gardens on the same day. For our bus the garden of Jean and Steven Stone was the last stop on the last day.

The Stone Garden was a perfect finale for an offering of Southern gardens that had included vast gardenscapes, beautiful garden lakes, and extensive guest iris plantings. It would be hard to devise a more promising and enticing sight for devoted irisarians than our first glimpse of the Stone home and garden.

Long, broad beds of irises decorated the Stone property along the

street and along the property-line shared with a neighbor. Ranging from three to five feet wide and easily one hundred feet long, these beds were filled with robust, well-labeled, lushly blooming tall bearded irises of recent introduction. The beds appeared to be at peak, with large colorful clumps of hundreds and hundreds of varieties in bloom. A sight to savor!

These street-view beds held the owners' private collection. Guest irises, however, were located in a large planting to the rear of the house. It was a slow walk to the guest planting with so much bloom to admire on the way.

Jean and Steve Stone, co-chairs of the convention guest irises, performed several other convention duties along with having their own garden on tour. Both are active with the West Tennessee Iris Society where Jean has served in many leadership roles over the past few years, and Steve is now serving as President. Recently retired, Steve is dedicating newfound time to the serious study of watercolor painting and to landscape design for the home garden.

Recent additions of native stone-framed ponds to both the front and the back gardens are an example of what lies ahead. Louisiana irises have been planted in the front pond, while a whimsical metal frog sculpture adorns the edge of a back garden pond designed with a stone spillway down to a large, natural looking mini-lake, the centerpiece of the rear garden. Following the curving far shoreline of the lake is the long, wide guest iris bed, raised several feet above the lake surface by a bulkhead retaining wall. The mosaic of iris bloom mirrored in the lake created a scene of tranquil beauty and produced one of the most charming visual effects of the convention.

The Stones grow a variety of evergreens, maple trees, dogwoods, and clematis. Their garden lake even offers a real live snake that, much to the dismay of some, swam across the lake while our group was touring! Nonetheless, the notable and memorable part of the Stone garden was the quantity and quality of iris bloom. Guest irises and the Stones' private collection provided such abundance that trying to produce a modest list of attention-catching irises has proven a difficult task. More than 100 different cultivars in this garden found their way into our notes.

PRINCESSE CAROLINE DE MONACO (Cayeux '98), not a guest iris, looked elegant, the loveliest example we've seen since it won the Cook Cup at the Denver Convention. STARRING (Ghio '00) was also a part of the Stones' private collection, and it attracted much attention here as it did everywhere, with its striking white standards,

red-purple black falls, brick red beards, and white style arms dramatically edged in gold. Equally lovely in other convention gardens, STARRING understandably won the Cook Cup for the 2002 AIS Convention. John Pierce's beautiful neglecta TENNESSEE BICENTENNIAL ('96) also made an attractive showing; it went on to win of the Convention's Franklin Cup.

Some of the Stone Garden guest irises that caught our attention and gained our admiration were:

CROWNED HEADS (Keppel '97) looked regal and stunning here as in several other gardens, with deep wisteria-violet standards and silvery blue-white falls.

An eye catching IB, DEVILISH NATURE (Boswell '98), created an urn-like, multi-stalked clump that displayed a pleasing abundance of light chocolate maroon blended blooms with striking and unusual silvery violet horns.

With the lake serving as a backdrop, RIVER RUNNER (Ernst '99), a medium blue self with blue-white beards, and CAST OF CHARACTERS (Ghio 01), a ruffled rose pink bitone with tangerine beards, made a pretty picture.

The bronzy gold GOLDEN PANTHER, a 2000 introduction from Rick Tasco, put on a fierce display of charm in several convention gardens as well as here. Another bronzy orange-brown, much enjoyed, was Sterling Innerst's EROTIC TOUCH ('98).

HAPPENSTANCE, the magnificently beautiful clear pink from Keith Keppel ('00), will be a lasting memory from this garden and this convention.

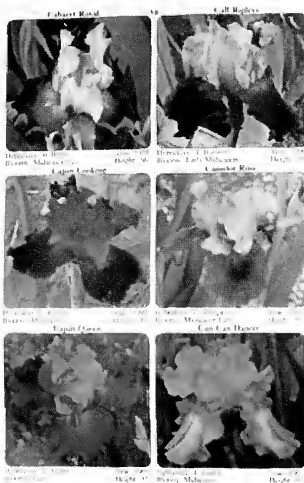
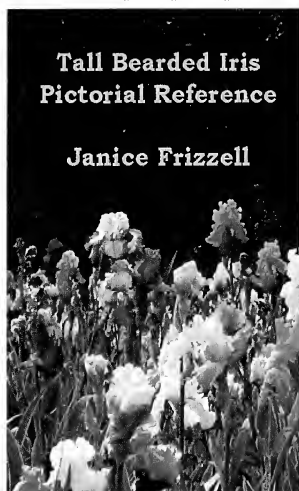
The border bearded MANGO SMOOTHY (Lankow '00) offered a refreshing helping of smooth mango colored blooms that looked good enough to drink.

Virginia Messick's WINE TIME ('98), was served up nicely in several of the convention gardens, with an offering of lovely smooth burgundy blossoms enhanced by deep blue beards.

Much admired, TITANIC'S NEMESIS, a '00 introduction from David Miller, is a silvery blue-white self with contrasting blue beards and lovely form.

Tom Parkhill and Hugh Thurman, two in-region hybridizers, contributed notable guest irises to the convention. Thurman's MADAM PRESIDENT ('01), a delightful pastel bicolor MTB, and Parkhill's pleasing TB, MIAH JANE ('01), a ruffled mid-blue self, were

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both among the top irises for the President's Cup.

OBSIDIAN ('02), the silky deep black tall bearded from Marky Smith, had been in bud, showing color but no open blossoms in other guest gardens. On this final day, in this final garden, the first inky black flower opened for all to see and enjoy.

LAST LAUGH, the last of George Shoop's posthumously introduced irises, performed happily. Immediately recognizable with its white standards, white crests tinged blue, and violet blue falls decorated with a white blaze, LAST LAUGH is a wonderful reminder of the truly individualized hybridizing work George produced for the iris world during his lifetime.

Other guest irises which were putting on a good display in this garden included: BOLDER BOULDER (Magee'00), CAROUSEL WALTZ (Helsley '96), DEB'S SUNSHINE (Lineberger '02), ENCHANTED MESA (Magee '99), FROSTED FANTASY (Cadd '01), INCA ROSE (Schick '02), KAYSAY (Nebeker '00), LENA BAKER (Kerr '98), LOU PEACH (Ehrcke '98), NITA'S BELL (Grumbine '99), NOBLE LADY (L. Miller '99), SAN JUAN SILVER (D. Miller '98), SKY AND SUN (Spoon '99), and VANISHING ACT (Wilkerson R '02).

The touring day ended, we boarded the bus armed with our garden notes and ballots for the President's Cup and Franklin Cup. During the return ride to the hotel, while sifting through our scribbled notes, one thought kept recurring: "So many irises - so little time...."

Judges' Challenge at the Memphis AIS Convention

by Carolyn Hawkins, Georgia; photos by Bill Smoot

What is a Judges' Challenge? Challenge can be defined as "an invitation to engage in a contest" but the spin on the word today is to call it an "opportunity." That is exactly what it really was in Memphis at the AIS Convention. Caroline Winters had seen a challenge class in the design division of a flower show and thought it might be an interesting experiment for Memphis. It was a great idea! The many, many comments convinced the Memphis Flower Show Chairman that she had indeed come upon a new, creative way to inspire and interest those attending "The Blues. . . and Other Colors" flower show.

The rules were important and set the stage:

1. They needed four out-of-town, accredited National Garden Club judges for the class. Claire Honkanen, South Carolina, Anna Mae Miller, Michigan, Frances Thrash, Virginia, and Carolyn Hawkins, Georgia, were invited to participate.

2. The time limit was two hours to create a design, utilizing materials provided by the Design Committee. Design would be viewed from one side only. No problems here but it was suggested to wear comfortable shoes. We brought nothing with us to work

with — no clippers, no containers, etc. That is the joy of a challenge class for out-of-town participants — they use what is provided and no planning ahead of time is required.

3. All exhibitors will receive the same plant material and supplies. The assortment included ginger roots, green spring onions, iris, assorted foliage, and — as you can see by the designs — a wide assortment of materials. There was Oasis, containers, clippers, wire, picks — just everything a person could need to complete a design.

4. The design would be displayed on a 40" high pedestal with a 20" x 20" top. No problem here — in fact this is my favorite staging for a design.

The four of us were picked up at the convention hotel and escorted to the Memphis Botanical Garden by Jean Stone. (She and her husband Steve were instrumental also in planning the large design division.) On the way she was so upbeat and encouraging that we had no chance to worry about the activity ahead. When we arrived there were beverages and goodies to energize us further.

To work we went and the time flew by. As you see by the pictures, our creations were all totally different even though we had the same materials. We staged the designs for the best viewing possible and combined the materials



Frances Thrash's winning arrangement



Anna Mae Miller's arrangement



Top: With Governor's Proclamation of
Carrier McEwen Day in Maine

Right: Carrier and Elisabeth McEwen
receiving AIS Gold Medal, 1999

Below: At his centennial celebration in
June, 2002



Dr. Carrier McEwen

see page 17 for related story





Above: Currier hybridizing in Harpswell Neck, Maine

Below: Evaluating pollen with in-garden microscope



with abandon. I particularly tried to use EVERYTHING the Committee had provided. Of course this did not make for a good design, as it was a little cluttered — but what the heck! It was fun, we laughed, we visited each other to see how things were going and in general had a wonderful time. The most interesting result was to experience how all of the people walking by were watching us and consulting on what we were doing.

It was a wonderful “opportunity” and I invite everyone to try this. If you have any questions please contact me at: 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236 or at crh9999@aol.com. ♪



Carolyn Hawkins arranging

Favorite Convention Guest Irises

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Golden Panther, 133 votes | 10. Bugles and Horns, 50 |
| 2. Starring, 124 | Trans Orange, 50 |
| 3. Splashacata, 108 | 12. French Cancan, 43 |
| 4. Happenstance, 83 | In Your Dreams, 43 |
| 5. Wild Wings, 73 | Local Color, 43 |
| 6. Devil May Care (IB), 70 | 15. Miah Jane, 40 |
| 7. Lady Jane, 66 | Last Laugh, 40 |
| 8. Sharpshooter, 58 | Storm Track, 40 |
| 9. Midnight Moonlight, 53 | 18. Devilish Nature (IB), 36 |

Irises Among the Battlefields of America

by Clarence Mahan, Virginia

AS CONFEDERATE TROOPS WITHDREW FROM THE GETTYSBURG battlefield on July 3, 1863, the elated Union troops stood and shouted "Fredericksburg! Fredericksburg!" at the defeated southern soldiers. The great Union defeat at Fredericksburg in the preceding December had been the source of great despair throughout the North. The first Battle of Fredericksburg was, however, only one of many battles fought in central and western Virginia.

Bull Run! Aldie! Aquia Creek! Ball's Bluff! Winchester! These are just a few of the names on the land where the North and South fought the Civil War. We will be traveling through and around these great battlefields to visit the tour gardens at the 2003 AIS Convention. You might want to come a few days early, or stay a few extra days, just to visit some of the most significant sites in American history.

The Fairview Park Marriott Hotel in Falls Church, Virginia, was our AIS Convention hotel in 1991. Region 4 will be hosting the 2003 Convention, once again at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel (Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church, VA 22042). Reservations numbers are 1-800-228-9290 and (703) 849-9400. The room rate for AIS Convention attendees is \$109 a night, with up to 4 persons per room. I suggest you make your reservations early because May is tourist season in the Washington, DC area, and our room rates are a bargain for this area.

If you are coming by plane, it is definitely most convenient to come into Dulles International Airport. Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport is the second best choice, and Baltimore Washington International (BWI) Airport is more than an hour away from the hotel.


We will be having a couple of optional tours at very reasonable cost, at least one of which will tour some of the major monuments in the District of Columbia, including the wonderful FDR Memorial (my favorite). We look forward to seeing you next year in Virginia! 



Photo: J. Morris

Top Left: Knowlton Medal (BB)

BABOON BOTTOM (B. Kasperek)

Left: Williamson-White Medal (MTB)

REMINISCENCE (C. Mahan)

Bottom Left: Hans & Jacob Sass Medal (IB)

PROTOCOL (K. Keppel)

Below: Cook-Douglas Medal

LITTLE BLUE EYES (J. Weiler)

Top Right: Clarence G. White Medal (AR & AB)

LANCER (H. Shockey)

Bottom Right: William Mohr Medal (AB)

OMAR'S GOLD (C. Boswell)



Photo: J. Weiler

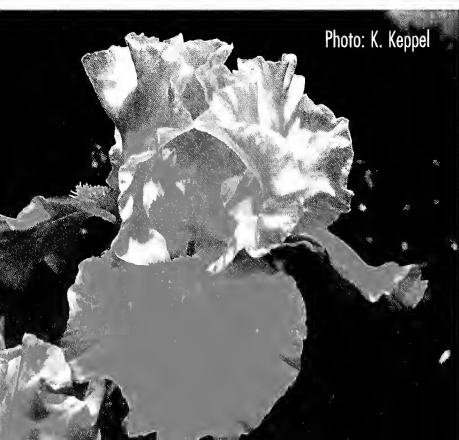


Photo: K. Keppel



Photo: G. Chapman



2002 AIS Medal Winners



2003 Silent Auction

Fredricksburg, Virginia

We are holding the Silent Auction again at the AIS Convention in Fredericksburg, Virginia! That means we need your contributions to ensure the success that we have enjoyed in the past years.

The Silent Auction has become a popular part of our conventions and it is a fun way to raise funds for the support of AIS. Many people have iris treasures they could donate, and it is a great way for hybridizers to get their new introductions seen in different parts of the country. We are looking for iris artifacts, iris books, and new or recent iris introductions. However, if you would like to donate any other irises that are rare or unusual, that would work fine also. Just drop us a note and let us know what you have.

This year's convention is scheduled for May 12-17, 2003, so please let us know what you can donate no later than April 1, 2003, so we can prepare the bid sheets. Send a short note to our address below, e-mail us or call. We look forward to hearing from you.

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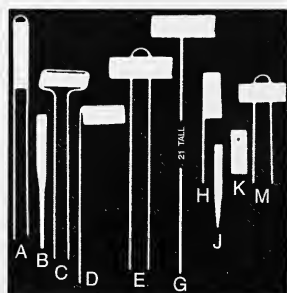
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AIS Awards 2002

*Number of votes listed first

DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL

78 MESMERIZER (Monty Byers)

Runners Up:

68 CELEBRATION SONG (Schreiner)

45 FANCY WOMAN (Keith Keppel)

JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL (TB)

59 LOCAL COLOR (Keith Keppel)

50 JURASSIC PARK (Larry Lauer)

49 GYPSY ROMANCE (Schreiner)

Runners Up:

47 ROMANTIC EVENING (Joseph Ghio)

43 WISHFUL THINKING (Keith Keppel)

42 MELTED BUTTER (Chun Fan)

42 SWINGTOWN (Schreiner)

KNOWLTON MEDAL (BB)

124 BABOON BOTTOM

(Brad Kasperek)

Runners Up:

89 LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE

(Elvan Roderick)

87 LEMON UP (Tom Magee)

CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL (MDB)

62 SCRUPLES (Lynda Miller)

Runners Up:

49 SQUIGGLES (Lynda Miller)

47 GNUS SPREAD (Brad Kasperek)

HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL (IB)

139 PROTOCOL (Keith Keppel)

Runners Up:

71 MAGIC BUBBLES (A. & D. Willott)

55 LONDONDERRY (Keith Keppel)

WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL (MTB)

122 REMINISCENCE (Clarence Mahan)

Runners Up:

121 APRICOT DROPS (J.T. Aitken)

67 STEFFIE (Kenneth Fisher)

COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL (SDB)

70 LITTLE BLUE EYES (John Weiler)

Runners Up:

46 FIRESTORM (Marky Smith)

46 GEMSTAR (Marky Smith)

CLARENCE G. WHITE MEDAL (AR & AB)

37 LANCER (Howard Shockey)

Runners Up:

32 ENERGIZER (Howard Shockey)

31 OMAR'S VALOR (Carl Boswell)

WILLIAM MOHR MEDAL (AB)

81 OMAR'S GOLD (Carl Boswell)

Runners Up:

24 SHE DEVIL (Paul Black)

21 ALADDIN'S TREASURE

(Darlene Pinegar)

2002 AIS Medal Winners



Photo: J. Morris



Photo: T. Aitken



Photo: B. Finkel

Top: Morgan-Wood Medal (SIB)
LAKE KEUKA (D. Borglum)

Middle: Payne Medal (JI)
ELECTRIC GLOW (T. Aitken)

Bottom Right: DeBailion Medal (LA)
EXTRAORDINAIRE (M. Dunn)



Photos: Schuster, Sacks



Above/Inset: Founders of SIGMA Medal (SPEC)
CANDYSTRIPER (B. Warburton)

Right: Sidney B. Mitchell Medal (CA)
SEA GAL (L. Belardi)

Below: Eric Nies Medal (SPU)
SUNRISE IN MISSOURI (D. Niswonger)

Below Right: Randolph-Perry Medal (SPEC-X)
AQUATIC ALLIANCE (L. Reid)

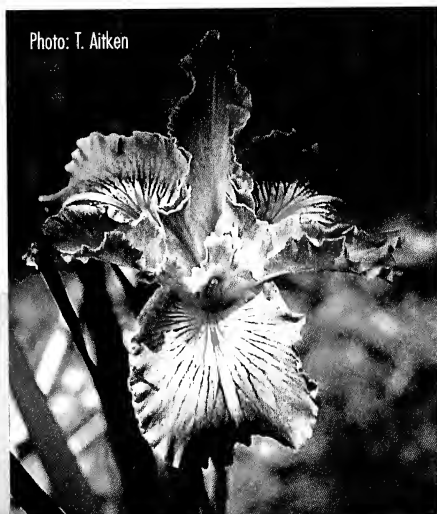


Photo: T. Ainken



Photo: W. Plotner

FOUNDERS OF SIGNA MEDAL (SPEC)

29 CANDYSTRIPER (Bee Warburton)

Runners Up:

19 PARTY LINE (Bee Warburton)

16 ARCTIC REBLOOMER (Carla Lankow)

16 ILLINI FOUNTAIN (D. Steve Varner)

16 MARVELL GOLD (James Waddick)

RANDOLPH-PERRY MEDAL (SPEC-X)

25 AQUATIC ALLIANCE (Lorena Reid)

Runners Up:

24 CASCADE VELVET (Joe Halinar)

20 ASIAN ALLIANCE (Jean Witt)

ERIC NIES MEDAL (SPU)

73 SUNRISE IN MISSOURI

(O.D. Niswonger)

Runners Up:

47 SONORAN SUNSET

(Floyd Wickenkamp)

44 ZULU CHIEF (B. Charles Jenkins)

SYDNEY B. MITCHELL MEDAL (CA)

19 SEA GAL (Lois Belardi)

Runners Up:

14 DEEP BLUE SEA (Joseph Ghio)

13 PACIFIC SNOWFLAKE (George Shoop)

MARY SWORDS DEBAILLON**MEDAL (LA)**

71 EXTRAORDINAIRE (Mary Dunn)

Runners Up:

59 GEISHA EYES (Charles Arny)

36 PROFESSOR MARTA MARIE

(Joseph Mertzweiller)

MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL (SIB)

115 LAKE KEUKA (Dana Borglum)

Runners Up:

76 SPRINKLES (Bob Bauer & John Coble)

57 RILL (Louise Bellagamba)

PAYNE MEDAL (JI)

46 ELECTRIC GLOW (J.T. Aitken)

Runners Up:

26 PINK DACE (Jill Copeland)

23 RASPBERRY GLOW (J.T. Aitken)

WALTHER CUP*(Most HM votes in any category)*

131 HAPPENSTANCE (Keith Keppel)

Runners Up:

125 STARRING (Joseph Ghio)

119 QUEEN'S CIRCLE (Frederick Kerr)

118 GOLDEN PANTHER (Richard Tasco)

AWARD OF MERIT**TALL BEARDED**

124 WORLD PREMIER (Schreiner)

118 MIDNIGHT OIL (Keith Keppel)

114 SPLASHACATA (Richard Tasco)

90 FOGBOUND (Keith Keppel)

81 CHASING RAINBOWS (Ben Hager)

78 CORDOBA (Joseph Ghio)

70 ANVIL OF DARKNESS

(Sterling Innerst)

66 DYNAMITE (Schreiner)

64 HALFWAY TO HEAVEN

(O.D. Niswonger)

61 OCELOT (Joseph Ghio)

57 CHINESE NEW YEAR (Joseph Ghio)

57 HUCKLEBERRY FUDGE (James Gibson)

56 ARCTIC FOX (Vernon Wood)

- 55 SAN JUAN SILVER (David Miller)
- 54 CELTIC HARP (Harold Stahly)
- 53 DEEP DARK SECRET (Paul Black)
- 50 GLACIER POINT (Richard Tasco)
- 49 SMILING FACES (Keith Keppel)
- 48 BYE BYE BLUES (George Sutton)
- 48 SANTA (George Shoop)
- 48 SUDDEN IMPACT (Richard Tasco)
- 47 ELECTRIC SHOCK (Virginia Messick)
- 47 ALABASTER UNICORN
(George Sutton)

Runners Up:

- 46 SELECT CIRCLE (Joseph Ghio)
- 45 PINK QUARTZ (Vernon Wood)

BORDER BEARDED

- 115 ORANGE POP (Larry Lauer)
- 53 CAROUSEL WALTZ (Calvin Helsley)

Runners Up:

- 42 INDIGO DOLL (Carol Lankow)
- 39 ROMANTIC INTERLUDE
(W. Terry Varner)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

- 77 GNU RAYZ (Brad Kasperek)
- 74 FATHOM (Marky Smith)

Runners Up:

- 57 WRANGLER (Harold Stahly)
- 55 MASKED BANDIT (Keith Keppel)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

- 121 BAUBLES AND BEADS (Iynda Miller)
- 109 WISTFUL WISTERIA (Opal Wulf)

Runners Up:

- 73 PINK BUTTONS (Carol Lankow)
- 52 RICK (Betty Wyss)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

- 75 MINIDRAGON (Marky Smith)
- 49 RUBY ERUPTION (Chuck Chapman)
- 48 FOREVER BLUE (Chuck Chapman)
- 47 HOODLUM (Keith Keppel)

Runners Up:

- 36 LUMALITE (J.T. Aitken)
- 36 TRAJECTORY (Paul Black)

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 61 DINKY CIRCUS (Paul Black)
- 55 BRAMBLEBERRY (Marky Smith)

Runners Up:

- 51 YAK ATTACK (Brad Kasperek)
- 47 PIXIE PIRATE (A. & D. Willott)

ARILBRED

- 48 DESERT JOY (Lin Flanagan)
- 46 DESERT FESTIVAL (Lin Flanagan)

ARIL AND ARILBRED

- 33 CHOCOLATE MINT (Richard Tasco)
- 21 ALI KHAN (Howard Shockey)

Runners Up:

- 16 PURPLE HEART IMPRESSION
(Luella Danielson)
- 11 ALRIGHT ALREADY
(Gustav Seligmann)

SPECIES

- 36 KING CLOVIS (Eric & Bob
Tankesley-Clarke)
- 33 SUSLIK (John Burton II)

Runner Up:

- 30 GORDONVILLE WHITE
(O.D. Niswonger)



Elmohr Iris Society

see page 90 for related story

Top to Bottom:

Elmohr members Elissa Eckstein and Phyllis Godfredson

Loomis Garden Co-director Carol Eacker

Unknown photographer at Loomis

Loomis Garden view



All Photos: B. Roberts



Photo: K. Keppel

Walther Cup Winner

HAPPENSTANCE (K. Keppel)

Below Left: Moscow Competition Winner ALDO RATTI (Bianco)

Below Right: Dr. Loomis Cup Winner SCARLET ARROW (Hedgecock)

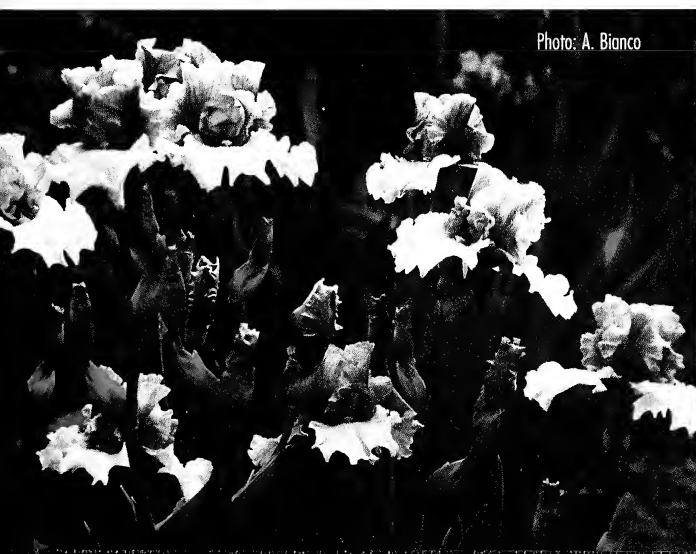


Photo: A. Bianco



Photo: J. Hedgecock

LOUISIANA

- 38 HOT AND SPICY (Heather Pryor)
 34 RED VELVET ELVIS
 (Kevin Vaughn)
 29 RICH JEWEL (Richard Morgan)

Runners Up:

- 28 PLANTATION BELLE (Mary Dunn)
 26 ACADIANA SUNSET (Richard Goula)

SIBERIAN

- 84 BLUEBERRY FAIR
 (Robert Hollingworth)
 74 RIVERDANCE (Marty Schafer and
 Jan Sacks)

Runners Up:

- 66 WHERE EAGLES DARE (Calvin Helsley)
 62 CARMEN JEANNE (Calvin Helsley)

INTER-SPECIES

- 95 ENFANT PRODIGE (Tony Huber)

CALIFORNICAE

- 21 AIR SHOW (Lois Belardi)
 10 COZUMEL (Joseph Ghio)

Runners Up:

- 9 SIERRA AZUL (Joseph Ghio)
 7 CHARTER MEMBER (Joseph Ghio)
 7 DISTANT NEBULA (Vernon Wood)
 7 EASTER EGG HUNT (Joseph Ghio)
 7 WISHING (Joseph Ghio)

JAPANESE

- 22 GEISHA DOLL (Ed Matheny III)
 21 FOREIGN INTRIGUE (Bob Bauer
 and John Coble)

Runners Up:

- 20 BLUE SPRITZ (Don Delmez)
 19 SING THE BLUES (Lorena Reid)

SPURIA

- 40 WYOMING COWBOYS
 (Floyd Wickenkamp)
 34 MISSOURI RAINBOWS
 (O.D. Niswonger)

Runners Up:

- 32 ADRIATIC BLUE (O.D. Niswonger)
 32 MISSOURI LAKES (O.D. Niswonger)

HONORABLE MENTION**TALL BEARDED**

- 131 HAPPENSTANCE (Keith Keppel)
 125 STARRING (Joseph Ghio)
 119 QUEEN'S CIRCLE (Frederick Kerr)
 118 GOLDEN PANTHER (Richard Tasco)
 106 SHARPSHOOTER (Keith Keppel)
 89 RING AROUND ROSIE (Richard Ernst)
 82 MILLENNIUM FALCON
 (Brad Kasperek)
 69 MY GINNY (Don Spoon)
 68 LAST LAUGH (George Shoop)
 68 SOCIAL GRACES (Keith Keppel)
 65 VIENNA WALTZ (Keith Keppel)
 64 KEEPING UP APPEARANCES
 (Paul Black)
 60 GHOST TRAIN (Schreiner)
 52 ORANGE BLOSSOM SPECIAL
 (Schreiner)
 52 ZIGGY (Virginia Keyser)
 50 DOUBLE DRIBBLE (Joseph Ghio)
 50 IN YOUR DREAMS (Lynda Miller)
 48 CONFIDANTE (Keith Keppel)
 47 NEXT MILLENNIUM (Joseph Ghio)
 45 AWESOME BLOSSOM (Paul Black)
 45 CHARIOTS OF FIRE (J.T. Aitken)
 45 DEVONSHIRE CREAM
 (George Sutton)
 44 SOCIETY PAGE (Joseph Ghio)
 43 AMPLIFIED (Joseph Ghio)
 43 COUNT DRACULA (Jim Hedgecock)
 43 RETURN ADDRESS (Joseph Ghio)

- 42 EAGLE CONTROL (George Sutton)
- 42 ENTANGLED (Joseph Ghio)
- 42 McKELLAR'S GROVE (Ben Hager)
- 41 POLISHED MANNERS (Keith Keppel)
- 41 TRANS-ORANGE (O.D. Niswonger)
- 40 SOTTO VOCE (Ben Hager)
- 39 HEARTBREAK HOTEL
(George Sutton)
- 39 WINGS OF PEACE (George Sutton)
- 38 BOLD VISION (Frederick Kerr)
- 37 DIFFERENT FLAVORS (Joseph Ghio)
- 37 RUSH CREEK (Jack Worel)
- 37 VEGAS WEEKEND (Hooker Nichols)
- 37 WINE TIME (Virginia Messick)
- 36 BALLET ROYALE (Vernon Wood)
- 36 EBONY ANGEL (Larry Johnson)
- 36 MIDNIGHT MOONLIGHT
(Lowell Baumunk)
- 36 TOKATEE FALLS (Schreiner)
- 35 CONNECTION (Joseph Ghio)
- 34 SMOKE AND MIRRORS
(O.D. Niswonger)
- 34 SOLOMON'S SEAL
(Allan Ensminger)
- 33 BLUE FIN (George Sutton)
- 33 KINKAJOU SHREW (Brad Kasperek)
- 33 MILLENNIUM SUNRISE (Schreiner)
- 33 REGIMEN (Joseph Ghio)
- 33 RUTH SIMMONS (Ron Mullin)
- 33 SAVANNAH SUNSET (Schreiner)
- 32 ASPECTS OF LOVE (Oscar Schick)
- 32 BLUTIQUE (Virginia Messick)
- 32 MODERN MAJOR GENERAL
(Abram Feuerstein)
- 31 CHERRY BLOSSOM SPECIAL
(Jim Hedgecock)
- 31 NOBLE LADY (Lynda Miller)
- 31 OCTOBER SKY (Larry Lauer)
- 30 APRIL JEWEL (Larry Lauer)
- 30 BOLDER BOULDER (Tom Magee)
- 30 ENCHANTED MESA (Tom Magee)

- 30 TOUCAN TANGO (Brad Kasperek)
- 29 MAKING WAVES (Ben Hager)
- 29 SANDY BEACH (Larry Lauer)
- 29 VIOLET TURNER (Larry Lauer)
- 29 WORLD WITHOUT END (Ben Hager)
- 28 BACHELOR PARTY (Paul Black)
- 28 BYE BYE BLACKBIRD
(George Sutton)
- 28 DRAGONHEART (Oscar Schick)
- 28 EAGLE LANDING (George Sutton)
- 28 JUMP FOR JOY (Ben Hager)
- 28 MAGICAL ENCOUNTER (Schreiner)
- 28 MATT McNAMES (Duane Meek)
- 28 POLISH PRINCESS (A.& D. Cadd)
- 28 SEA SWELLS (Joseph Ghio)

Runners Up:

- 27 CLEARWATER RIVER
(Richard Ernst)
- 27 LAVA MOONSCAPE
(LeRoy Meininger)
- 27 RITUAL (Joseph Ghio)

BORDER BEARDED

- 51 MAUI DAWN (J.T. Aitken)
- 50 ORANGE PIECRUST (O.D. Niswonger)
- 41 BORDER CONTROL (Tom Johnson)
- 39 MANGO SMOOTHY (Carol Lankow)
- 35 TORCHED WITCH (Lynda Miller)
- 34 TWILIGHT PASSAGE (J.T. Aitken)
- 28 COLOR MY WORLD (Paul Black)
- 28 PINK CADILLAC (George Sutton)

Runners Up:

- 26 LOW PROFILE (Joseph Ghio)
- 26 MINI CHAMPAGNE (George Sutton)
- 26 QUINALT (Jim & Vicki Craig)
- 26 SPRING PASTEL (Joyce Ragle)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

- 65 DEVIL MAY CARE (Paul Black)



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Left: Convention guests at Dabney Nursery

Below: RED DAWN Nave Garden

See Convention Reports starting page 17

Both Photos: T. Aitken



- 43 DEVILISH NATURE (Carl Boswell)
- 43 INFINITY RING (Paul Black)
- 39 AGATHA CHRISTIE (George Sutton)
- 38 BAMA BABY (Frank Foster)
- 38 BLITZEN (Marky Smith)
- 36 AARDVARK ANTICKZ
(Brad Kasperek)
- 36 CONCERTINA (George Sutton)

Runners Up:

- 35 WHISTLE (Keith Keppel)
- 34 DUBLIN (Keith Keppel)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

- 67 BLUE CHIP STOCK (Paul Black)
- 58 PINK-ALL-OVER (Kenneth Fisher)
- 36 KEIRITH (Jean Witt)

Runners Up:

- 31 ASTRA LADY (W. Terry Varner)
- 31 HOODSPORT (Jim & Vicki Craig)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

- 57 DENALI (Marky Smith)
- 44 CACHET (Paul Black)
- 36 GIMMICK (Keith Keppel)
- 33 BORDEAUX PEARL
(O.D. Niswonger)
- 33 CHEROKEE DAYBREAK
(Bennett Jones)
- 33 IMPEACHED (Keith Keppel)
- 32 ARTFUL (Paul Black)
- 31 BLUE RILL (Bennett Jones)
- 31 WIZARD'S RETURN (Richard Tasco)
- 31 YEARLING (Marky Smith)
- 29 ERAMOSA SNOWBALL
(Chuck Chapman)
- 29 PEACH RUFFLES (Carol Lankow)
- 29 PRANK (Keith Keppel)
- 28 GNU GENERATION (Brad Kasperek)
- 28 SWEET BABY (Keith Keppel)

Runners Up:

- 27 BLEACHED BLONDE (Perry Dyer)
- 26 BLACK BANDIT (Duane Meek)
- 26 COUNTING SHEEP (J.T. Aitken)
- 26 KIT FOX (Lowell Baumunk)
- 26 LEMON CURD (W. & A. Godfrey)

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 35 TINGLE (Paul Black)
- 32 WIGGLE (Paul Black)
- 29 CORAL CARPET (Chuck Chapman)
- 29 PIXIE KISSES (A. & D. Willott)

Runners Up:

- 24 BEACHWOOD BUZZ
(A. & D. Willott)
- 24 BURST OF BLUE
(A. & D. Willott)

ARIL AND ARILBRED

- 44 OMAR'S STITCHERY (Carl Boswell)
- 17 OMAR'S BLUE MOON (Carl Boswell)
- 16 OMAR'S EYE (Carl Boswell)

Runners Up:

- 13 ABSALOM'S TREACHERY
(Pete McGrath)
- 12 HIDDEN PINK (Harald Mathes)
- 12 SON OF BOAZ (Sharon McAllister)

ARILBRED

- 17 HAKUNA MATATA (A. & D. Cadd)
- 11 SUE BEE (Susie Kammer)

Runners Up:

- 9 DESERT SURPRISE (Lin Flanagan)
- 9 MOHRIC BUTTERFLY
(Sharon McAllister)

SPECIES

- 40 BAYOU BANDIT (Jeff Weeks)

- 23 SYLVANSHINE (Clarence Mahan & Carol Warner)

Runners Up:

- 18 VERSICLE (Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks)
14 WICHITA FAREWELL (James and Lucy Fry)

INTER-SPECIES

- 35 SIBTOSA PRINCESS (Tomas Tamberg)
29 ALPHA GNU (Brad Kasperek)

Runners Up:

- 27 LITTLE CAILLET (Ken Durio)
22 BERLIN-CAPE CONNECTION (O.D. Niswonger)

CALIFORNICAE

- 11 PACIFIC MISS (Lois Belardi)
11 PACIFIC SNOWBALL (J.T. Aitken)
11 SANTA ROSALITA (Joseph Ghio)

Runners Up:

- 10 WITH THIS RING (Joseph Ghio)
9 HARBOR HIGH (Joseph Ghio)

LOUISIANA

- 30 PEACHES IN WINE (Heather Pryor)
28 NAVAJO PRINCESS (D.L. Shepard)
25 BAYOU BLUEBIRD (Kevin Vaughn)
23 HUSH MONEY (Mary Dunn)
20 LOVE ME DO (Bernard Pryor)
20 MAD ABOUT YOU (Heather Pryor)

Runners Up:

- 19 SCARLETT (Mary Dunn)
17 GINGER PUNCH (Richard Morgan)
17 THANKSGIVING FEST (Mary Dunn)

SIBERIAN

- 60 FOND KISS (M. Schafer and J. Sacks)
56 BUTTER AND CREAM (Currier McEwen)
46 DIRIGO BLACK VELVET (John White)
46 SALAMANDER CROSSING (Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks)
43 LOUISON (Calvin Helsley)

Runners Up:

- 37 BANISH MISFORTUNE (Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks)
36 HARPSWELL LOVE (Currier McEwen)

SPURIA

- 32 MISSOURI DREAMLAND (O.D. Niswonger)
32 MISSOURI ORANGE (O.D. Niswonger)
32 MISSOURI STAR (O.D. Niswonger)

Runners Up:

- 17 HICKORY LEAVES (O.D. Niswonger)
16 LACED SUNSHINE (D.L. Shepard)
16 MEGABRIGHT (B. Charles Jenkins)

JAPANESE

- 30 RASPBERRY CANDY (Bob Bauer and John Coble)
26 PLEASANT SANDMAN (Chad Harris)
24 PINKERTON (Bob Bauer and John Coble)
19 RIVULETS OF WINE (J.T. Aitken)
17 CONFETTI DANCER (Lorena Reid)
17 INDIGO DELIGHT (J.T. Aitken)

Runners Up:

- 16 LITTLE BOW PINK (Don Delmez)
14 LITTLE SPRITZER (Don Delmez)

Longworth Garden

see page 23 for related story



Above: Longworth Home, Christopherson seedling in foreground

Right: MIDNIGHT MOONLIGHT (L. Baumunk)

Below: IN YOUR DREAMS (L. Miller)

All photos both pages: Plank, Filardi & Aitken





Convention Scenes



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Madlinger Garden view

TRANS-ORANGE (D. Niswonger) at MBG

RUBY MORN (Schreiner) at West Tennessee
Iris Garden

ARCTIC AGE (Schreiner) at WTIG



HC Awards for 2002

TYPE	SEEDLING	HYBRIDIZER	REGION	VOTES
TB	673 Q	Lowell Baumunk	20	6
TB	R3-64A	Vincent		
	Christopherson	17	6	
TB	963	M. D. Faith	22	6
TB	92-122V	Joseph Ghio	14	5
TB	96-122W	Joseph Ghio	14	6
TB	EMERALD SUNRISE	Eugene Kalkwarf	21	10
TB	AM-97-0207	Anton Mego	Slovakia	6
TB	93-3-1	Robert Strohman	7	6
TB	92-2-5	Hugh Thurman	7	7
BB	96-39A-3	Martha Hutcheson	1	5
BB	4607-1	Sterling Innerst	3	5
IB	217-89-1	Carl Boswell	14	6
MTB	C39-7	Charles Bunnell	6	6
MTB	10195A	Lynda Miller	6	10
MTB	88-2	Jack Norrick	6	6
MTB	97-708A	Don Spoon	4	6
MTB	W 93-92 A	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	5
SDB	W 2K-141	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	6
SDB	W 2K-169	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	6
SDB	W 01-52	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	6
MDB	W 93-17	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	6	6
SPEC-X	4J	Jill Copeland	6	9
SPEC-X	1-I-2	Jill Copeland	6	6
JI	DWBVPUST	Don Delmez	18	8
JI	DSPB	Don Delmez	18	6

Notes Regarding

Hensler's Putative Japanese X Siberian Iris Hybrids

by Chandler Fulton, Sharon Hayes Whitney, and Currier McEwen

CHRISTY ANN HENSLER WAS KIND ENOUGH TO SEND US some of her seedlings, which she believes result from crosses of Japanese with Siberian irises, about which she and Sam Norris reported in articles in the April 2001 *Bulletin of the American Iris Society*. Here we report an evaluation of these plants, and then discuss some aspects of the genetics of such wide hybrids.

Our major goal has been to seek further evidence whether these plants are or are not hybrids. This is an important question because the occurrence of hybrids between the two series, *Laevigatae* and *Sibiricae*, in the genus *Iris* would be noteworthy. While there are other interseries hybrids in irises, none appears to have been reported between these two series.

Ms. Hensler first sent irises to Dr. McEwen to be planted in 1999. She sent several of her first-generation (F_1) plants, which were represented as offspring of unnamed Japanese irises (JIs) crossed with unnamed Siberian irises (SIBs). She also sent a series of second-generation (F_2) plants, which were described as crosses of the F_1 plants to one another or using named Siberian irises as the pollen parent. Subsequently additional plants were sent to Dr. McEwen and to Dr. Fulton.

Over the past two summers, 2000 and 2001, we carefully evaluated about 25 putative hybrid plants from Ms. Hensler, and the blooms of 22 that flowered. In 2001 we also attempted crosses of these plants, using flowers carefully prepared to prevent fertilization by insects. (The flowers of the pod parent were prepared in bud, with falls and anthers removed before the flower opened. The pollen for each cross was collected, in most cases, from anthers of buds that were opened indoors. The pollen of those irises that bloomed with other Siberian irises in the



Hamilton Garden

see story page 28





HEARTLAND (F. Kerr)

Stone Garden

see story page 30



garden was stored dry at 4°C until use on the later-blooming Japanese irises. In conventional crosses of fertile Siberian X Siberian irises or Japanese X Japanese irises, in our hands, these procedures routinely produce >50% pods with seeds.)

In a first evaluation, we examined the foliage of each iris, and classified the plant as Japanese or a Siberian iris. There were no uncertain intermediates; every plant could easily be classified. As flowers bloomed, our evaluation based on the foliage was confirmed in 100% of the 22 plants that bloomed.

Second, we examined the flowers. Every flower on the F_1 and F_2 plants was readily classified as a typical diploid Siberian iris (on 4 F_1 and 4 F_2 plants) or a species-like Japanese iris (on 4 F_1 and 10 F_2 plants). Careful examination of each flower and bloomstalk did not reveal to us any blended or "hybrid" characteristics. In their articles, Hensler noted the putative hybrids were either JI-like or SIB-like, and Norris also noted "no sign of a blend."

Furthermore, every SIB-like flower bloomed with other Siberian iris in our gardens, and every JI-like flower bloomed with other Japanese irises. Thus the bloom times of the plants corresponded with the appearance of their foliage and flowers.

Finally, we attempted crosses. The relevant crosses are those utilizing Japanese-phenotype plants as pod parents and Siberian-phenotype plants as pollen parents, since this is the direction in which Ms. Hensler reported her successes. We made 27 such crosses (12 of F_1 X F_1 plants, 1 of F_1 X F_2 plants, 3 of F_2 X F_2 plants, 3 of F_2 X F_1 plants, 7 of named JI X F_1 or F_2 plants, and 1 of F_1 X a named SIB plant). Most of the F_1 and F_2 pod parent plants showed their intrinsic fertility by forming bee pods, and all of the anthers of the pollen parents had pollen. In seven of the 27 wide crosses, the hybridized flower began to form a pod and then regressed, a "pseudopregnancy" often seen in crosses of 28-chromosome X 40-chromosome Siberian irises or in other wide crosses that usually do not form pods with seeds. But in no case did a JI-like flower form seeds when fertilized with pollen from a SIB-like flower. This is a relatively small number of crosses, and it would be desirable to do many more, but in this sample we were unable to obtain any "takes" in phenotypically interseries crosses using the Hensler plants. In personal communications, several hybridizers have informed us that they have attempted such crosses, but obtained only negative results. Another hybridizer mentioned that he has made

apparently successful crosses between JIs and Siberians; we await the results of these crosses with interest.

In summary, all of the seedlings we have studied appear to be pure *ensatas* or pure *sibiricas* with no evidence of mixed features that would be expected in hybrids. As is the case with any negative results in science, our failure to find an indication of a hybrid nature in the Hensler plants cannot establish whether or not these F_1 and F_2 plants are interseries hybrids. On the other hand, our observations offer no support for that interpretation.

In order to understand these putative hybrids better, it is useful to think a little about the genetics of irises (as well as other plants and animals).^{*} Genes are those magic segments of DNA molecules that give irises their phenotype (i.e., their appearance, as determined by their genes). Genes reside on chromosomes. A diploid iris gets a matching pair of each chromosome, one from the female (pod) parent and the other from the male (pollen) parent. Overall, plants get half their chromosomes from the female parent and half from the male parent. The matching pairs are important, because in the next generation when it is time to form germ cells (gametes) — the ovules and pollen — the matched chromosome pairs must find one another in order to separate properly (in the process called meiosis). Thus a diploid Japanese iris gets 12 + 12 or 12 pairs or 24 chromosomes, and a diploid 28-chromosome Siberian iris gets 14 + 14 or 14 pairs or 28 chromosomes. A true chromosomal hybrid of a cross of JI X SIB would receive 12 JI chromosomes and 14 SIB chromosomes, and since these are very different species the “pairs” of chromosomes probably would not match very well.

In his article in the April 2001 issue of the *Bulletin*, Sam Norris reported the chromosome number of four of the Hensler plants. He noted that in these plants counts were obtained only with difficulty, but in three plants he reported counts of 26 chromosomes, which would be expected for true hybrids, and one plant gave a count of 24, which would be correct for *ensatas*.

By now geneticists have more than a century of experience in performing crosses of distantly related plants (and animals) since the first principles of genetics were understood. In such “wide crosses” it has been found that if a true hybrid forms it regularly shows characteristics of both parents. Thus to a geneticist, these putative JI X SIB hybrids are puzzling. It is expected that if the Hensler plants contained 12



IRISES FOR 2003

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LeBlond Garden

Photo: T. Aitken

chromosomes from the JI ovule and 14 chromosomes from the SIB pollen nucleus, they would show unequivocal hybrid characteristics. It is particularly difficult to imagine any hypothesis in which some true chromosomal hybrids would show the many characteristics of a JI but none of a SIB, while others from the same cross would show, reciprocally, only the many characteristics of a SIB. Another puzzle is that if interseries hybrids formed, in this case with 12 JI + 14 SIB chromosomes, it is unlikely that the hybrids would be fertile, except perhaps rarely. The expectation of infertility arises because in such hybrids many if not most of the chromosomes would not have the very similar partners that are necessary for pairs to form and separate properly, which is an essential part of the meiotic divisions that form the female and male gametes. Thus most gametes, if they formed at all, would not receive a complete set of chromosomes. In previously described successful crosses, the chromosomes of such wide hybrids are often quite mixed up, and infrequently form functional gametes. Yet the Hensler plants regularly formed bee pods, indicating that matching chromosome pairs were present and meiosis occurred quite normally in these plants. Overall the general knowledge gained from other crosses gives us confidence that if these putative hybrids contained a reasonably full complement of genes from both of their parents, JI and SIB, the plants would show at least some hybrid characteristics — yet they did not. They should be relatively sterile — and they were not.

An alternative explanation of the “hybrids” would be that the Hensler JI X SIB crosses, by one process or another, formed seeds and plants that contained the genes of only one parent. Such pseudohybrids are known in certain plants, with many variations (including apomixis). A final possibility is that formation of a true hybrid is followed by some kind of incompatibility and chromosome elimination such that the plant would end up, for example, with 24 chromosomes “endoreduplicated” from the JI parent and 2 from the SIB parent. Such processes might form pseudo- or partial hybrids, but in addition to being rare, they often are directional, e.g., the pod parent produces a plant by endoreduplication without using any of the genes from the pollen parent. Any such explanation for the Hensler seedlings would require there be no directionality; some plants would have received primarily JI chromosomes and others primarily SIB chromosomes.

Our observations to date offer no support for the hypothesis that the Hensler plants are interseries hybrids, and we thought it useful to

report these results. At the same time we hope further attempts will be made to obtain hybrids of named JIs with named SIBs, and look forward to further results of Christy Hensler and others. In addition, if further hybrids can be obtained, it is hoped that irisarians will seek means to determine their genetic origin and composition, as well as methods more decisive than chromosome counts to evaluate the presence of genes from both parents in the putative hybrids. One such method would be DNA testing. In the meantime, the possibility of such interseries hybrids brings excitement to iris hybridizing, and promises to lead to interesting results in the future. 🌸

Submitted March 28, 2002

* Dr. Fulton is a biologist, and teaches genetics at Brandeis University.



HARPSWELL HAPPINESS (SIB-McEwen '83)

Celebrating Currier's Centennial

by Chandler Fulton, Massachusetts



OSCEOLA CURRIER MCEWEN HAS LIVED A LONG LIFE, AND HE has used the time allotted him to achieve major contributions in several different fields of endeavor, including irises. Through his accomplishments and his personality he has enriched many lives. It is rare to live so long. It is rarer still to achieve so much. In celebration of his first 100 years, I wish to share my joy in knowing this remarkable and inspiring individual.

Currier was born in Newark, New Jersey, on April 1, 1902. His father, George Floy McEwen, was a physician who became crippled by arthritis to the extent that he was confined to a chair, yet he devised ways to continue his medical practice. His mother's maiden name was Mary Antoinette Currier. She used to spoil young Currier, and when asked about it she responded "you can't spoil a good thing." He was named Osceola after his grandfather, who in turn had been given the name by his father to honor the memory of a Seminole chief who went to peace talks under a flag of truce, but was arrested and put in prison where he died a year later.

After completing his undergraduate degree at Wesleyan University, Currier attended the New York University School of Medicine, where he received his M.D. in 1926. He did his internship and residence at Bellevue Hospital, and not surprisingly decided to specialize in arthritis and other rheumatic diseases. He did a postdoctoral residence at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research (now Rockefeller University), where for four years he studied rheumatic fever. In 1932 he was invited to return to the New York School of Medicine — they knew a "good thing" when they saw one — as Instructor and Assistant Dean. He quickly rose through the ranks at NYU, and became a very young Dean in 1937, a post he held until 1955. He retired as Professor Emeritus of Medicine in 1970.

Currier has an exceptional ability to bring people together to collaborate as a team, and to instill a sense of urgency and importance to the mission, and thus to induce everyone to work together toward a goal. His leadership has given his efforts especially high impact. Immediately on settling at NYU he started a Rheumatic Diseases Study Group, devoted to patient care, teaching, and research. This pioneering interdepartmental effort, energetically chaired by Currier until 1968, grew to a major project involving 12 academic departments that contributed much to our understanding of arthritis and rheumatic diseases, and also trained over 200 fellows. In a similar role, Currier was active in the American Rheumatism Association, including as a member of its Medical and Scientific Committee, and served as its president from 1952-53. He was involved in the formation of the Arthritis Foundation, and a member of its Board of Directors. He contributed to a major reclassification of rheumatic diseases, and to the establishment of "rheumatology" as a medical specialty in 1950. He was involved in the early days of the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, including service on its Council and chairing the first large "program project" research grants. He was author or coauthor of about 200 articles on rheumatic diseases. He traveled to many parts of the world, from Egypt to Galapagos, as a consultant or to attend conferences. As he described to me, during his years at NYU he held essentially two fulltime administrative positions, one as Professor and Dean of the Medical School and the other as head of the arthritis project. He used every minute. On the train to Riverdale in the evening he would read his mail and consider his reply to each letter. After dinner he retreated to his study and dictated the replies. He received many honors for his contributions to rheumatic diseases, including honorary doctorates of science from Wesleyan University and Marietta College.

During the Second World War, Currier held several important positions, including as Commanding Officer of the 49th Station Hospital in London, England, and finally serving as Chief Consultant in Medicine of the European Theater of Operations, with rank of Colonel.

Currier began to hybridize irises as a hobby while he was still busy at the medical school. Whenever he had the opportunity, he enjoyed gardening, including vegetables, irises, and daylilies. In the mid-1950s, a Schreiner's catalog arrived in Riverdale, New York, where the

McEwens lived, that was undeliverable as addressed. The addressee's name included a "Mac" so the postman left it at the McEwens'. One February evening Currier looked at the catalog, and followed its suggestion to join the American Iris Society. The *AIS Bulletin* arrived with articles on hybridizing, so he decided to try it, at first with tall bearded irises and with daylilies. (The efforts with daylilies produced over 50 introductions from 1964 to 1978, including some lovely hybrids that are still available. Among these are some that Currier has mentioned as favorites, including PERSONALITY PLUS and ORANGE BOUNTY, and a handsome clear yellow, LEMON PRELUDE, that co-blooms with Siberian irises.)

In 1960, while at a medical conference in Chicago, Currier visited Orville Fay, who was using colchicine with daylilies to induce the doubling of chromosome number from diploid to tetraploid. Fay explained the technique. Currier was enchanted; as a rheumatologist he had used colchicine to treat gout. Once at home, the following spring he tried colchicine on Siberian and Japanese irises, whose tetraploids had never been in commerce. The first tetraploids produced are usually chimeras with both diploid and tetraploid tissue, and thus are unstable, but these can be crossed to obtain a second-generation of pure tetraploids. Currier obtained his second generation of tetraploid Siberian irises by 1966, and two were introduced in 1970, the year he retired from NYU, including a "blue" self that he named in honor of ORVILLE FAY. A whole new line of Siberian irises had begun. ORVILLE FAY received the highest honor for a Siberian iris, the Morgan Award, in 1976. Another of Currier's early tetraploids, SILVER EDGE, also won the Morgan Award two years later.

Currier's hybridization records show that he found time to make hundreds of crosses during the years while he was still working at NYU. The number expanded rapidly after his "retirement." While his efforts to produce tetraploids was underway, other adventures unfolded, including the world's first yellow Siberian iris. The origin of BUTTER AND SUGAR is best told in his own words, a story written in 1987 that also illustrates the eloquence of Currier's descriptive writing:

Unfortunately, the parentage is only partly known. I want also to make clear at once that it came from breeding efforts in which there was no thought of obtaining yellow. In 1966 I was eager to have CAMBRIDGE and DREAMING SPIRES to use in my

work with colchicine to induce tetraploid Siberian irises. I wrote to Mrs. Marjorie Brummitt in England, the originator of those two lovely blue diploids, explaining my purpose and requesting the two plants. Mrs. Brummitt not only sent the plants but, knowing that I would have to wait several years for them to bloom and provide flowers for crosses, she very kindly sent a packet of "bee pod" seeds from each for me to use at once. That is the reason for the incomplete knowledge of parentage because only the pod parent was known in each case.

The seeds were sprouted and treated with colchicine in February 1967. Approximately 20 seedlings in each batch survived the treatment and of these most were blue, about a third were white and among the white ones in each batch there was one which had quite yellow falls. The one from DREAMING SPIRES was introduced in 1971 as DREAMING YELLOW and the one from CAMBRIDGE in 1973 as FLOATING ISLAND, named after the pudding of yellow custard with egg white floating on top. All of those approximately 40 surviving seedlings proved to have been unaffected by the colchicine and were diploid.

DREAMING YELLOW and FLOATING ISLAND had come purely as lucky breaks, an example of McEwen luck, but once they bloomed it took no very high order of intelligence to recognize the importance of crossing them. This was done the summer of 1971. The resulting seeds were treated with colchicine that winter. Twenty-two survived of which only one, a rich blue-violet was tetraploid. All the others were diploids and all were white with varying amounts of yellow in the falls. Of these the best both in form and in depth of color was the second in the row, 71/33 (2), and it was selected in 1977 for introduction as BUTTER AND SUGAR. Not only is its form superior to that of its parents but the yellow of the falls is richer and is lasting. The falls of DREAMING YELLOW and FLOATING ISLAND are pleasingly yellow on the first day of bloom but then the color fades to creamy white. The yellow of BUTTER AND SUGAR is richer and persists without change and, indeed, is more pronounced on day four than that of the parents on the day of opening.

Currier sent DREAMING YELLOW to his friend and fellow Siberian iris hybridizer, William McGarvey, who jokingly wrote him that it was "more dreaming than yellow." As Currier told me, "The next

year BUTTER AND SUGAR opened, and he had to eat his words." BUTTER AND SUGAR started a revolution in iris colors, and probably is Currier's best known and most widely grown iris. It won the Morgan Award in 1981 and was honored again by receiving the first Morgan-Wood Medal in 1986. While this work was ongoing, other diploid Siberian irises were introduced, including RUFFLED VELVET (1973), a handsome velvety deep violet with wonderful wide and ruffled form that has been involved in the parentage of dozens of subsequently introduced Siberian irises by many breeders, including his good friend Bee Warburton. RUFFLED VELVET won the Morgan Award in 1980.

Success in creating tetraploid Japanese irises took a little longer. The first plant of a second-generation tetraploid Japanese iris bloomed in 1977. By good fortune this first success proved to be beautiful, and it was introduced as RASPBERRY RIMMED in 1979. RASPBERRY RIMMED received the Payne Award in 1983. Other tetraploid Japanese irises hybridized by Currier that won the Payne Award include BLUEBERRY RIMMED, which is a child of RASPBERRY RIMMED, and JAPANESE PINWHEEL. JAPANESE PINWHEEL, a handsome red with a fine light edge, was the favorite guest iris at the 1989 Japanese Iris Convention. Two diploid repeat bloomers, PURPLE PARASOL and RETURNING TIDE, also each won the Payne Award.

As with daylilies and tall-bearded irises, the tetraploid Siberian and Japanese irises proved to have larger flowers, with more pronounced colors and features. They lose some of the daintiness of the diploids, but when successful their exaggerated substance, vibrant color, and starchy ruffling all are striking in the garden. Currier has carried tetraploids of both Japanese and Siberian irises to advanced generations. Essentially whole new "species" of irises are evolving in these tetraploids, as successive generations have proved more fertile and produce more seeds.

In all his efforts, as Currier has emphasized, "McEwen luck" has played a role. With irises, the arrival of the Schreiner's catalog, the meeting with Orville Fay and the gout-relieving drug colchicine derived from the Autumn Crocus, the first yellow Siberian iris, the incredible new seedlings that have appeared every year in his garden, both diploids and tetraploids. As Louis Pasteur said, "luck favors the prepared mind." Currier, with his remarkable intelligence, boyish

enthusiasm, curiosity and boundless energy has consistently been able to turn opportunity into accomplishment.

In Currier's life, people and place have been important. His family summered in South Harpswell, Maine. Currier first visited there when he was about three months old, and every summer subsequently except for three years during World War II. In 1952 he purchased his own home there, a 19th century cottage on a bluff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. He extensively rebuilt this house, including considerable carpentry using his own and his family's hands. His early hybridizing efforts took place mostly in Riverdale, and Harpswell was a place for sailing, relaxing, and spending time with family. After his retirement the garden was moved to Harpswell, and became known as "Seaways Garden." This is a spectacular location, perfectly suited both to restoring one's soul and, with its sun, cool climate and gentle breezes, to exuberantly hybridizing, growing, and studying irises. Settled in Harpswell, the work with irises became his dominant profession.

After his retirement, he established a rheumatology practice in nearby Brunswick, Maine, and he continued this practice into his late eighties, often driving to visit patients who could not come to his office. He generously helped many patients, and "The Doctor" became (and remains) revered throughout the area.

In his efforts, Currier has been staunchly supported by remarkable partners. His first wife Katherine Cogswell, whom he married in 1930, strengthened his efforts by many tasks, while providing homes in Riverdale, New York, and South Harpswell, Maine. Together Kay and Currier raised four wonderful children; Currier now has six grandchildren and one great-grandchild (with another on the way as this is written). Kay died in 1980. In 1982, Elisabeth Fulkerson, a longtime close family friend, married Currier, and they have shared a wonderful partnership for 20 years. In his iris hybridizing efforts he also has been helped by alliances with two dedicated, exceptional women: Shirley Pope, who distributed his irises for years, and Sharon Hayes Whitney, who now distributes his irises and also helps him in his hybridizing and all aspects of handling the plants.

I have known Currier only during the last fifth of his 100 years to date, the fifth of one's life that an average person — if living — sits back and relaxes. Since then Currier, never idle, has accomplished more than most of us do in a lifetime. When I first knew him, he was 82, and I worried in my journal about learning from this remarkable man "while there is time." About once a year since then, I have enjoyed and been

inspired by a pilgrimage to Harpswell, to see his new hybrids, and especially to visit with Currier and Elisabeth. During his supposed "twilight years" he has published three books, a *History of Rheumatology in the United States* (1985, with Charley J. Smyth and Richard H. Freyberg), *The Japanese Iris* (1990), and *The Siberian Iris* (1996). For irisarians, the last two are classics. In addition to excellent research, beautiful organization, and clear exposition, in preparing these books he constantly consulted with the global network of knowledgeable people, so these books are likely to stand as the definitive works for a generation or more. In addition, he has published over a hundred papers in horticultural journals. He was a founding member of the Society for Siberian Irises, and served as its president; later he served as president of the Society for Japanese Irises.

These years of hybridization have always been sparked by scientific curiosity, and in addition to making crosses he is always trying to learn more about the irises. From 1985-92 he was the Chairman of the AIS Scientific Committee, and he has been personally involved in several important scientific projects involving irises, including working on methods for making crosses, germinating seeds, inducing tetraploidy, effect of soil pH, studies of rebloom, even an ongoing collaborative project on growing irises under Arctic conditions that he calls the "Deep Freeze Project." He published a paper on one of these projects, attempts to discover the cause of the disease scorch in irises, in the July 2002 *AIS Bulletin*. When I first knew Currier, he was still planting about 1500 seedlings a year, from which he hoped to introduce about 4 to 6; these numbers have gradually declined. His energy has remained prodigious year after year. I remember visiting him one weekend. He hybridized until 7 p.m., with a brief break for a cocktail at 5 p.m. After a lobster dinner, which he helped prepare, he went to the laboratory-plant room he had built behind the garage, and while we talked he prepared labels for the next day's hybridizing and tended his treated seedlings that were growing under fluorescent lights. He worked until 11 p.m., and was up at 7 a.m. the next morning cooking breakfast for us all. His focus on goals is always strong. When he could still walk around his garden to hybridize, he would greet the frequent visitors to his garden warmly, but then went on working. Moreover, if one spent time in the garden, one's help was soon elicited, to bring a flower or tool, to take a picture, to give an opinion. His energy, intellectual and physical, seemed boundless, but a lot came from determination to get the job done. He kept going at the task, whether at his worktable

overlooking the sea or in his garden, even when tired or hurting. He described himself memorably and yet accurately when he told me "Chandler, I am a young man with 87-year-old knees." Finally, in the past couple of years the osteoarthritis in his knees has required that he visit and work in the garden from a chair. His leadership continues unabated. This summer in the middle of a scientific discussion about irises, I recall his compelling voice as he got out pen and paper and said, "this is important, Chandler."

Through all this, he has continued to introduce, year after year, new and improved Siberian and Japanese irises, tetraploid and diploid, full-sized and miniatures, including repeat bloomers, of every size and color. Each year he has honestly described some of his introductions or seedlings as his "best to date." I hesitate to mention any because even my favorites change from one year to another. He has continued to introduce diploids, and some of his (and my) favorite Siberian irises among his introductions are diploids, including RUFFLED VELVET, BUTTER AND SUGAR, and SHIRLEY POPE. If one could have only one of his miniatures I would choose ANNICK. To me especially notable tetraploid Siberian irises include HARPSWELL VELVET, which has magnificent form, CHANDLER'S CHOICE, which is red velvet with fire, and EVER AGAIN, perhaps the most beautiful repeat bloomer. Among Japanese irises not already mentioned, notable are ORIENTAL ROYALTY, CONTINUING PLEASURE, and JAPANESE PRINCESS. The last of these the great Japanese expert Mototeru Kamo of Kamo Nurseries, when visiting Currier's garden in 1990, declared was the best Japanese iris ever developed outside of Japan. A diploid Japanese iris, SOUTHERN SON, introduced in 1990, was described by Currier that year: "One of our major hybridizing goals is the achievement of true colors and this lovely flower, a self of RHS-93B, is the closest to true medium blue that we know." Improvements in color, pattern, branching, and form are ongoing. Wonderful tetraploid Siberian irises have been developed that are named for continuing dreams, DREAMING GREEN, DREAMING BROWN, and DREAMING ORANGE, new clear colors glimpsed but not yet achieved. In 2002 he introduced the diploid Siberian iris LITTLE CENTENNIAL and the tetraploid Japanese iris CENTENARY. One iris that I think may prove to be his most beautiful tetraploid Siberian iris to date, both as a flower and overall as a garden plant, has been registered as MERRYSRING. It won best


seedling at the Maine Iris Show in 1999, and is currently being increased for introduction in the future. Clarence Mahan is writing a history of Currier's hybridizing efforts that will chronicle his accomplishments in detail. Currier has left us a rich legacy of diverse Siberian and Japanese irises that no one could even have imagined before his work.

Centenarians are rare, and occur at a frequency of about 1 in 5,000. Current centenarians have survived two world wars, the 1918 flu epidemic, the widespread replacement of horses with gasoline engines and of ice boxes with refrigerators, the intrusion of telephones and radio, the Great Depression, air travel, reduction of the necessity to utilize one's imagination by movies and then by television, the discovery that genes are DNA molecules, men on the moon, the computer and the internet, the human genome, and the evolution of tetraploid Siberian and Japanese irises. Genes and healthy living play important roles in longevity. In addition, researchers who have studied those individuals who live to be 100 find that they tend to have been unusually healthy through their later years, to remain independent, and to be "constantly busy." As T. T. Perls noted, "They basically carried on as if age were not the issue." He added, "Basic good luck surely helps as well." These attributes fit Currier perfectly. Ten years ago he went to his physician in Maine for a physical, and told the physician he hoped there was nothing wrong because "I'm having such a good time, I want to live a long time." The doctor replied "Currier, you already have lived a long time." Happily the physician found nothing that would threaten a still longer life. Currier is always busy, with goals, writing that needs to be done, friends, family, colleagues and admiring visitors, and of course his irises. He works daily from a folder marked "Urgent." As he has emphasized, "I always have a goal" (quoted from Tukey, 2002). Currently, in addition to his projects and correspondence, he is writing his memoirs for his family and, I hope, his friends. And of course this remarkable centenarian holds the patent on "McEwen luck."

His achievements in medicine, administration, and irises as well as his personal kindnesses have touched many lives. An example of his open and helpful nature was told to me. A stranger stopped at his home in Maine. His car had broken down, and he asked to use the phone to call for repair. Currier learned that the man had an appointment in town, so Currier loaned him his car. Currier is also a great and expansive host, as was so amply shown to all of us who attended the July

1990 Japanese Iris Convention in Maine and celebrated a lobster picnic in his garden.

In his later years, the great theoretical physicist Albert Einstein was asked his profession, and replied “photographer’s model.” Currier also has spent a lot of time receiving awards and accolades, always with grace and charm. His honors include the Hybridizer’s Medal of the American Iris Society in 1976, the comparable Foster Memorial Medal of the British Iris Society in 1977, the Luther Burbank Award of the American Horticultural Society in 1995, and the highest honor that the American Iris Society can bestow, its Gold Medal, in 1999. There have been several celebrations of his centennial. This year articles about him have appeared in periodicals as diverse as *Arthritis & Rheumatism* to *People, Places & Plants*. At the Portland Flower Show on March 14, there was a celebration of Currier’s birthday that included a slide presentation of irises he has produced. Currier cut a cake on that occasion (photo in the July 2002 *AIS Bulletin*). On June 22, Governor Angus King of Maine proclaimed it Currier McEwen Day, a lovely Currier McEwen Centennial Garden prepared in Harpswell Historic Park by the Harpswell Garden Club was dedicated, and Currier cut two more cakes provided by the Maine Iris Society.

A life so long is rare; a life so rich in achievements is rarer. Currier, those of us you have befriended, helped, taught, mentored, and inspired, whose gardens and lives are enriched by your work, we salute you! Our lives are far richer for the time you spent with us. You have inspired us with your enthusiasm, your curiosity, your welcoming nature, your love of life. By zestful example, you have shown us how to live. Keep going, we still have a lot of learn from you! 

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Flight Lines

compiled by Peter Weixlmann, New York

Popularity Polls

Growers of other classes of irises have a legitimate complaint that their voices are not heard. Therefore those other classes, Medians, Louisiana, Japanese, Siberian, etc., should have their own popularity polls.

—Francelle

Hi Francelle,

I think you have some very good ideas. I just want to comment that most of the sections do have their own polls. I just voted the Dwarf Iris Society, Median Iris Society, and Society for Siberian Irises popularity polls. But the results of these polls are not usually published in the *AIS Bulletin*.

—Dorothy Willott in Northern Ohio

[Editor's Note: Actually, the results of the Median popularity poll are indeed published in the Bulletin. We would be glad to publish other section results if they are submitted to us. BF]

Culture: Something is eating my rhizomes

Would someone please help me decide what is eating my newly planted rhizomes. Something just chews an open spot on the top of the rhizome or immediately just under it and then deep into the rhizome. Could this be borers or maybe voles as I have a real mole problem? I don't know what borer damage looks like. I know it is the season for them.

—Dean Gray, Zone 5, just So. of St. Louis, Mo.

Probably crickets.

—Vince Lewonski, PA

I discovered today that crickets are working on my irises again. I believe they are earlier this year than last. I'd hoped our colder winter had frozen most of them out. The only thing I found that worked well last year was covering the rhizomes so they can't get to them. Tricky at best,

and not something that can be done once they've dug their deep holes. Several from last year are rather slow to recover.

—*Betty from BG KY*

I believe there is a bait on the market that deters crickets and other ground-dwelling plant-eaters, like certain roaches. Sorry that I do not know any details. Check your local garden center or extension agent.

—*Bill S.*

Bacterial Soft Rot

I think the Dial handsoap might be a preventive only. I have not found it to be a cure even at 100% strength. There have been testimonials to the contrary, and I don't know what I am doing that makes Dial soap ineffective for me, but it just doesn't cure my kind of rot.

—*Walter Moores, Enid Lake, MS USA 7/8*

The widespread use of any antibacterial agent selects for resistant forms. There is already concern in medical circles about the inclusion of antibacterials in soaps. When we are not sparing in our use of a tool for the control of pests, we speed up the process of making that tool ineffective. This can happen locally as well as globally. That's why I don't favor "preventative" spraying of any pesticide. These valuable agents should be saved for times of real need. Meanwhile I'll stick with my grapefruit spoon and can of Comet. Comet, by the way, is a physical bactericidal agent that acts through its hypochloride content in a way that bacteria cannot resist (it physically destroys them).

—*Bill Shear*

How come I seem to be the only one who found bleach-type treatments for rot to be (A) relatively ineffective, and (B) extremely bad in tending to suppress root growth resulting in an often fatal loss of general vigor? I have had nothing but success using powdered concrete or mortar mix on the "wound" (after, of course, scraping out all the affected area). Similar principle, it creates a hostile environment (pH) for invading bacteria. Hasn't anyone else had the same trouble with bleach, or even tried my idea?

—*John Reeds, in sunny southern Calif.*

I know this subject has been hit on before but I would like to toss in my two cents' worth. It is extremely hard to consistently hybridize plants that are prone to rot or are weak growers. They just don't survive and so

are not around to work on. We don't spray anything on our iris for disease other than an occasional leaf spot spray in early spring. All rhizomes are treated before they are shipped but that is after they are dug. If an iris doesn't grow well for us it is chucked, even if it is a very nice plant we just don't have the time to baby anything. Only vigorous (for us) plants are introduced..

—Mike Sutton, CA

We do talk a lot about the special care needed for irises in some parts of the country, but over the years on this list, I have come to realize how cultivar specific that need for care really is. So many irises 'born' in California are prone to rot here that it never occurred to me that some of the irises that thrive for me would rot elsewhere. But CELEBRATION SONG does. So now I have a lot of children from CELEBRATION SONG that grow like weeds for me, that I would certainly describe as carefree to grow, disease free, rot-proof, etc, but for all I know they would turn to mush in Arizona. I never treat for rot - other than occasionally pulling loose, rotted foliage away to improve air circulation.

—Linda Mann, east Tennessee USA zone 7/8

Edith Wolford Progeny

Can you recommend others of the same yellow over violet type that may fare better in my zone 8 climate?

—Janet Natale

One of Rick Ernst's Edith progeny that does very well here is FROM A DISTANCE, Ernst 94, which, from a distance, looks like Edith.

—Rita Gormley Cedar Hill, MO, Zone 5

I also think of all of the good growers that came from that same garden - POEM OF ECSTASY, CHASING RAINBOWS, and so many more.

—Walter Moores, Enid Lake, MS USA 7/8

Triple Sockets


Here in Oregon we find that several of our aphylla derivatives carry triple terminals, most however fall into the median classification. In other words, are not TB's. More and more are rebloomers, too!

—Vicki Craig, OR

I'm trying to "build" the ideal iris. One of the primary characteristics I seek to engender into this cultivar is the propensity to produce triple sockets on terminal ends of stalks and lateral branches — similar to Lemon Chess (arguably the best with this characteristic).

—Bill Burleson, *Old South Iris Society*

Here are ones I have noted as having triple sockets in my home garden. It means I have seen them; not that they routinely have them here: CYCLES, MICHIGAN PRIDE, SILVER FIZZ, SPIN-OFF. I suspect better care, more sun, and change of locale to, say, Salem, Oregon, would results in more triples.

—Vince Lewonski, *Secane, Pennsylvania, USA Zone 6b* 



Stone Garden (page 30)

Dr. Loomis Memorial Iris Trial Gardens

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Carol & Russ Sacker, Garden Directors

The Dr. Loomis Memorial Iris Trial Gardens have the opportunity to provide growing conditions at high altitude. Each year is a very interesting challenge since along with the altitude there is always the weather to help make things different. This year we are in a drought situation so there are some limitations on water usage. It still was a good year for the irises.

It is always wonderful to praise all of the hybridizers who are willing to send irises to the Iris Trial Gardens and allow us to see how they will perform at our high altitude.

Following are the top award winners in each section of this year's trials:

3RD YEAR TALL BEARDED:

SCARLET ARROW

(Hedgecock)

(Dr. Loomis Winner)

MISSOURI MIST (Niswonger)

MACARENA (Messick)

MANITOU SKIES (Hedgecock)

97-96-A (M. Roberts)

3RD YEAR MINIATURE TALL BEARDED:

AE-3A (Corson)

AE-7A (Corson)

AE-6A (Corson)

AE-2A (Corson)

93-721-4 (Chapman)

3RD YEAR STANDARD DWARF BEARDED:

ADD IT UP (Niswonger) (Dr.
Loomis Winner)

RN-7 (Corson)

CH-29 (Corson)

B4 (Corson)

CH-19 (Corson)

3RD YEAR ARIL BRED:

AB 95 C1 (Stetson)

AB 95 B5 (Stetson)

AB 95 J1 (Stetson)

3RD YEAR INTERMEDIATE**BEARDED:**

AARDVARK ANTICKZ

(Kasperek)

BLUEBERRY FILLY

(Kasperek)

3RD YEAR MINIATURE DWARF**BEARDED:**

AFRICAN WINE (Kasperek)

3RD YEAR SPECIES:

ALPHA GNU (Kasperek)

2ND YEAR TALL BEARDED:

EBONY ANGEL (Johnson, L.)

(Dr. Loomis Winner)

9902 (Baker)

P96-17 (Penn)

95-8B (Annand)

2008 (Baker)

2ND YEAR STANDARD DWARF**BEARDED:**

SCARLET IN FLAME (Muska)

BUBINA (Muska)

COCOA PINK (Niswonger)

HEATHER CARPET

(Chapman)

BUFFI (Muska)

2ND YEAR SPECIES:

MIRABEL GLOW (Huber)

96-033 (Huber)

STYLED MODESTY (Huber)

2ND YEAR MINIATURE DWARF**BEARDED:**

TICKLE ME (Chapman)

2ND YEAR BORDER BEARDED:

BORDER CONTROL

(Johnson, T.)

HEART OF AFRICA

(Kasperek)

91-100A (Annand)

M90-16A (Messick)

2ND YEAR INTERMEDIATE**BEARDED:**

98-3 (Stahly)

BLUEBERRY FILLY


(Kasperek)

GODDESS OF YELLOW

(Niswonger)

INFINITY RING (Black)

PINK COTTON CANDY

(Niswonger) 

In Memoriam:

Carryl Jean Meyer

written by her friends in the Missoula Iris Society; Missoula, Montana

Carryl Jean Meyer, 67, passed away on June 22, 2002 in the hospital in Missoula, Montana, after a long and valiant battle with cancer. We have lost a courageous friend and loved one.


Carryl was born July 28, 1934, to Roy and Carryl Murray. After many moves in her young years, her family eventually settled in the community of Paradise in the Sierra Foothills of northern California where Carryl graduated from Chico High School. She met her future husband Hubert (Honk) Meyer at California State University in Chico, where she earned a degree in Medical Sciences.

Carryl and Honk married in 1956 and for many years lived in Sacramento, California, where together they raised two sons and discovered a love of gardening. When Honk was transferred to Missoula in 1956 with the U.S. Forest Service, Carryl continued her gardening, her career, and her community service. She worked for many years at the old Northern Pacific Hospital, the old Missoula General Hospital and the old Community Hospital as a Clinical Laboratory Technologist, and also worked in the field of hospital administration.

Carryl gave of her time and knowledge generously to many organizations. She was an active member of the Missoula Iris Society, the American Iris Society and the American Dahlia Society. Her contributions were unmatched and her knowledge of gardening, especially iris and dahlia gardening was phenomenal. She served in many volunteer positions, including that of President of MIS, and along with Honk, helped maintain and improve the public iris gardens at Fort Missoula for many years. She loved her iris, especially the historical iris, and served in the American Iris Society as Regional Vice President, and was a member of the Board of Directors and treasurer of Historical Iris Preservation Society. She was an accredited iris judge, a senior accredited dahlia judge, a master flower arranger, and Superintendent of

Floriculture for the Western Montana Fair. Her community service included serving for many years as chair and co-chair on HAZMAT, the advisory and planning board on air pollution, and she was also involved with the Safety on Skis program for 30 years.

In her spare time she enjoyed cooking, crafting, creative sewing, quilting, reading and spending time with her granddaughters. She was truly loved by her many friends in the iris society and her family; everyone will miss her.

Carryl is survived by her husband of 46 years, Honk, at their family home in Missoula, and by two sons and two granddaughters. 

In Memoriam:

Frederick G. Stephenson

by E. Roy Spperson, North Carolina

Fred Stephenson died at his home in Roanoke, Virginia, on August 12, 2002, at the age of 89. Fred had been involved in the iris activities of Region 4 and The American Iris Society for over thirty years. When Region 4 was organized into chapters in 1961, Fred was instrumental in the establishment of the Blue Ridge Iris Society. He was appointed an AIS judge in 1964 and he recently wrote:


“One thing that amazed me was that there were no requirements for becoming an Iris Judge. The RVP appointed whomever he/she desired. A training program of sorts existed and was open to anyone. AIS had tried several times to institute a comprehensive judges’ training program, but none were ever accepted, so a call went out to all RVPs to develop a judges’ training program and submit it to National. ... I went to work making a study of what everyone considered

the essentials of the “perfect iris”.

“From there I decided to develop a program incorporating the basic parts of the iris: The Flower, The Plant, Color Classification and Iris Exhibition. I developed a lesson for each. I wrote out Instructor’s Work Sheets so anyone could effectively teach that subject. I then set up a timetable for an individual to complete the entire course and meet the requirements for a judgeship which were a part of the Program.”

That program was accepted and became the basis of the judges’ training program of The American Iris Society. I had the privilege of receiving my basic training from Fred himself. He also was the General Chairman of the 1974 AIS Convention headquartered in Roanoke, Virginia.

His iris garden in Roanoke was named “Ingleside Gardens”, where he grew about 900 varieties before discontinuing the garden in 2001. Also a hybridizer, he introduced several BBs including PINK SUNDAE and SUZANNE BURKE in 1972 and ERIN CHARM in 1973. INGLESIDE JOY and PLEASING ACCOMPLISHMENT (both TB SA) and FLIGHT POISED (TB) were introduced in 1982. Following his retirement in 1975, Fred worked toward the establishment of an Adult Care Center in the Roanoke area. This became a reality in 1982.

Fred is survived by his wife of 52 years, Adelaide, a son, a daughter, and six grandchildren. 

In Memoriam

William F. Harris, Oregon

Carryl Meyer, Montana

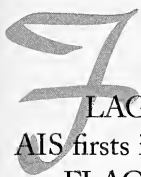
Ed Ostheimer, Louisiana

Dennis & Karen Stoneburner, Virginia

Marion L. Walker, California

FLAGA Iris Society

by Joyce Thrift, Georgia




FLAGA (FLORIDA & GEORGIA) IRIS SOCIETY HAD FOUR FLORIDA AIS firsts in 2002.

FLAGA Iris Society hosted the first American Iris Society Regional Meeting (Reg. 5) ever to be held in Florida on April 5 & 6, 2002. They also held the first AIS sanctioned iris show to be held in Florida. Sherry Seabrook, an AIS and FLAGA member, is the first Florida hybridizer to enter an iris seedling in a National Convention and win a first place special award for one of her seedlings. It is the first time a member of an AIS affiliate headquartered in Florida has been elected as an AIS RVP.


Keith McNames with the AIS library helped FLAGA find Marjorie Starkey. She headed an AIS Affiliate in South Florida in the 1980's & 1990's; to the best of FLAGA's knowledge, Margie Starkey and Jean Davenport House are the only living members of the first AIS Florida Affiliate. Margie brought a beautiful Historic Tall Bearded rebloomer iris stalk with her on the plane from Bradenton, FL, to place on FLAGA's display table at the Regional meeting.

This is what inspired Sherry Seabrook to take iris stalks to enter in the National Iris Show at the Society for Louisiana Iris's National Convention in Little Rock, AK, in May of 2002. Her first place-winning seedling was sea99/40 in the Short Seedling Division, a pink chiffon self Louisiana iris. It plans to register it as "Megan Victoria". She also won 5 other ribbons and awards.

Region 5 honored FLAGA by sending at least 122 people to FLAGA's first Regional Meeting. The Lord blessed FLAGA by sending perfect weather for the Regional. The hosts Dr. Gary & Veda Dopson, Macclenny, FL; Ike & Cherrie Pearson, Whitehouse, FL; Jerome & Reba Ridaught and Jonathon & Sherry Seabrook, Alachua, Fl, all had gardens beautiful enough to be seen on any National garden tour. The tour also included Seabrook's Iris & Antique Rose Nursery and Tabor's Glen St. Mary Nursery, the oldest nursery in Florida and one of the oldest in America. 

Importing Rhizomes

by Bruce Filardi Oregon

VER SINCE 9/11, OF COURSE, CUSTOMS IS TAKING A CLOSER look at every shipment that comes into the country. Some regulations apparently have been on the books all along, but are only now being enforced. One is a regulation that seems to require a permit to import iris rhizomes.

It has been difficult to get clear answers from the USDA on the exact rules. We have been told that it is necessary to have a permit for importing all plant materials (including seeds!), but that only shipments of 13 or more items must be USDA-inspected. This seems to apply to shipments from all foreign countries except Canada. The USDA sent me a list of plants for which the permit is needed, and irises are *not* on the list... but apparently the permit is needed nonetheless. Permits are only issued to US residents with valid US street addresses.

There is no charge for the permit. When requesting the application for the permit, be *specific* about what you are importing. Irises are *not* on the endangered species list, so you do *not* need the \$70. endangered species permit (which one of our iris friends in California was told she must purchase)! *Ask for Form 587.*

USDA information indicates that Form 587 can be downloaded at: <<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/permits>>. However, despite several attempts, I was unable to download anything here.

If you have a fax machine, your next option is to call the “automated Fax Vault System” at (301) 734-4327.

The option that finally worked for me was to call the USDA office at (877) 770-5990. However, do *not* try leaving a voicemail message! (Or you can try, but I left extremely detailed messages on two separate occasions and got no response at all.) Finally, after ten days of attempts, I reached a real person, and she put my Form 587 into the mail to me


the next day. I filled out the form and am currently awaiting my permit (estimated at 10-15 workdays).

You can also write to request form 587 from:

USDA, APHIS, PPQ
4700 River Road – Unit 136
Riverdale, MD 20737

I will ask foreign shippers to write my permit number on both the phyto certificate and on the exterior of the box when shipping to me. I import each year from two sources in Australia and one in France, and less frequently from other countries; I have never had any problem until the last year. Ironically, I received a box of more than 100 rhizomes from the Czech Republic in September, and that one sailed through with no problem. And I live in eternal hope that I will someday receive a shipment of Dodsworth irises from England...

Last February a shipment of 14 rhizomes from Australia arrived with 10 of my rhizomes and four of Ron Betzer's that had been confused with mine during inspection. Margaret Sutton in California and Lynn Finkel in Washington State can tell you additional horror stories. I certainly do not question the need for added security after the events of 9/11. I am writing this article in hopes that other AIS members will be able to avoid frustration by having their permit *before* a shipment is stuck in Customs.

Just as a point of clarification: *Form 587 is not the permit; it is the short application form required to get the permit.* Remember that you must apply with a US street address, not a p.o. box. There should be no charge for the permit, which we have been told will be valid for all shipments you receive over the next five years, after which it can be renewed. 

What Makes Elmohr Special?

by Betty Roberts, Region 20 RVP

[Editor's note: The Elmohr Iris Society was the winner of the 2001 AIS Affiliate Award. We asked Betty Roberts to put together some information so we would all know what makes this group outstanding.]



THE ELMOHR IRIS SOCIETY HAS A LONG HISTORY OF STRONG leadership and camaraderie in Colorado Springs. A handful of adventurous iris lovers organized the society in 1966. Under Frank Foster's leadership as Elmohr's first president, Bess Cheever, Dixie Freudenberg, Irene Murphy, and Rodger and Suzanne Rogers set the standard of excellence that has existed for more than thirty-six years. The next year they were joined by Lola and Dwane Quinn, active members to this day along with Suzanne and Rodger.

The group met in private homes initially and later moved to the Women's Club, where they remained until the Fire Department informed them they were exceeding the fire code. How had they managed to grow from a group of twenty to a group of 100? Potluck suppers drew a crowd, and to this day food seems to be a drawing card.


The move to the library following the Fire Department's warning proved to be a good thing. Under Mike Moller's leadership, the idea of a high altitude test garden for irises was initiated. The Dr. Loomis Memorial Trial Garden has been a source of pride for the society and the community, and the tie that binds the membership together. How fortunate can one be to be able to evaluate some of the newest and best iris introductions? The garden is the meeting place for fun and education, too. What do Elmohr members do when they get together at garden meetings? They weed, of course! And they dig and divide plants and prepare them for sale. New members get initiated quickly and soon learn the basics of iris culture. Members follow the tradition of good food, good fellowship, and good learning. Russ and Carol

Eacker, co-directors of the garden, entice “the laborers — the weeders” by offering neat iris prizes and delectable goodies each time a garden meeting is scheduled.

The test garden is located at one of the branch libraries, and when the group is not in the garden, the community room at the library is the site of the indoor meetings. Excellent speakers and plenty of opportunities for judges’ training by some of the country’s best irisarians encourage attendance from those living as far away as Boulder and the Denver area to the north, and Pueblo to the south, as well as other surrounding areas. Elmohr is blessed to count among its members some excellent hybridizers who remain highly visible. Each year Elmohr schedules two out of region speakers and one speaker from within the region. A free luncheon is offered at each of the meetings. In the fall, a popular activity is a cookout with plenty of hot dogs, hamburgers, and all the trimmings. Carol Eacker is always at meetings with super door prizes. We don’t have an abundance of youth members, but those who have attended through the years are always eager, participating individuals.

The main activity in June is the show. Popular educational exhibits include a planting demonstration, a demonstration on hybridizing, and a computer display of the many phases of irises. The big rhizome sale is held in July. Crowds line up in the mall early, and the bulk of the sales are completed within two or three hours.

A willingness to reach beyond the confines of our city prompted Elmohr to join hands with Region 20 in funding a research project by a branch of Colorado State University to determine the effect of the use of alfalfa meal on iris plantings. The project is now in its third year.

The glue that binds Elmohr’s various activities is an informative monthly newsletter. One cannot overestimate the value of a timely newsletter, and the present president, Ellen McIntosh, has certainly made a valuable contribution in this area. Her enthusiasm for irises is the key, and she spreads the word to anyone who will listen! 

Ten Irises and a Lily

by Clarence Mahan, Virginia

A FEW YEARS AGO I WROTE AN ARTICLE FOR THE *BULLETIN* WITH the title "Ten Irises and an Eggplant." Our current editor, for reasons known only to himself, liked the article and has subsequently been asking me, I will not say "hassling me," to write another article in the same vein. Being fond of our editor (and needing his assistance from time to time), I sit down with mouse in hand to give him his article.

The iris that impressed me more than any other at the Memphis convention was DEVIL MAY CARE (Paul Black 00). This black intermediate bearded (IB) iris with bright orange beards is the epitome of distinction. What is more, in every garden where it was seen it showed extraordinary increase, was exceptionally floriferous, and acted like a magnet drawing crowds of admirers. DEVIL MAY CARE has fine form, and all the good attributes that an intermediate bearded iris should have.

There was a tall bearded seedling at Memphis that startled me with its beauty, nice form, and other good qualities. I was unfamiliar with the hybridizer, but I was so fascinated by Anton Mego's seedling AM-97/0207 that I wrote him a note to tell him my opinion as soon as I came home from the AIS convention. In the process, I discovered Anton lives in Slovakia and is adept at sending email.

When I saw the list of High Commendation awards for this year, I learned that I was not the only AIS judge who liked this seedling AM-97/0207. It is a most distinctive blue-violet plicata with a rich cream, almost yellow, ground and with a dark violet edge on the falls. It appears to have exceptional substance, good branching and bud count and personality plus. I hope Anton introduces this iris in North America so it can compete for other AIS awards and be available to American and Canadian iris aficionados.

The two introduced tall bearded cultivars that I rated the highest

this year were both bred by Lynda Miller. IN YOUR DREAMS (2000) was performing wonderfully well everywhere I saw it, including my own garden. Words are not adequate to capture the lovely colors of this cultivar, but it is a bicolor with cream-colored standards and style arms, kissed by violet at the midribs. The falls are orchid-violet with gold shoulders. In a few words: lovely form and lovely stalks. Who but Lynda would have thought of crossing EDITH WOLFORD with Monte Byers' space age iris PHENOMENON!

WINNING TICKET (1999) was the second iris hybridized by Lynda Miller that "knocked my socks off." Its standards are white with a bluish tint and its falls have a white ground with dark lavender borders and stitching. What branching! What show stalks! Has an iris ever been more appropriately named? This one will be showing up as Best in Show all over North America.

Another tall bearded iris cultivar performing outstandingly in my garden and in Memphis convention gardens was Rick Tasco's SPLASHACATA (1998). Grey standards with "purple pepper" splashed over white falls, this "child" of popular PURPLE PEPPER has all the attributes of greatness: vigor, form, bud count, and fabulous personality. This iris is headed toward the Wister Medal and perhaps even beyond, if my predictive powers are still functioning. (As the years roll on, I find much else is not functioning.)

I was fortunate to be able to visit Carol Warner's garden north of Baltimore in June, and for the first time to see several of Hiroshi Shimizu's "eye shadow irises" in bloom. These irises are hybrids of *Iris pseudacorus* and various Japanese iris cultivars. Fantastic! Pictures of some of the "eye shadow iris" seedlings were featured in the January 2002 *Bulletin*, and these irises are in reality as beautiful as their photographs. Hiroshi Shimizu has arranged to have Carol's Draycott Gardens begin introducing these irises in the near future. At present, these irises are still seedlings.

Mr. Shimizu's interspecies hybrids are a great hybridizing achievement. I could name almost any of the different "eye shadow" cultivars as being among "my favorites," but will show restraint by naming only two. KINSHIKOU is a peach-colored iris with bright yellow styles and a deep raspberry halo radiating out from the bright yellow signal. It is an incredibly beautiful iris like no other ever seen. KOURU, pictured on page 63 of the January 2002 *Bulletin*, is a very bright — really bright — yellow iris with reddish-brown halo.

Multi-petal Japanese irises have never held much appeal for me, but

this year I saw one that is very beautiful. The nine falls are organized in neat layers and are very ruffled. The falls are maroon with large white centers and veins; the white style arms have crests tipped violet. The name of this cultivar is LION KING (1996), and Bob Bauer and John Coble are the hybridizers. It has healthy foliage and makes a nice garden specimen.

The two irises that complete my list of ten are both Japanese iris seedlings of Hiroshi Shimizu. These two irises have not yet been registered, but will be soon. The garden names of these two seedlings are "Miharu" and "Yashima." "Miharu" is one of a series of semi-dwarf Japanese irises bred by Mr. Shimizu. It has six falls colored deep pink with white edges. It has prominent ruffled crests, and is both distinctive and beautiful.

Shimizu's "Yashima" is the loveliest Japanese iris cultivar I have seen in years. It is the classic three-fall type, and the falls are maroon with a rich velvety texture. The falls are so huge that they overlap. In fact, the overlap is so extensive that before closer examination I thought I was looking at a six-fall cultivar. This iris is a true self with a very small gold signal. It demonstrates some branching of the proper type for a Japanese iris cultivar. I saw it growing in a large bed with many other Japanese irises, including several Payne Award and Medal winners — my eye went directly to "Yashima." It is, indeed, an eye-catcher and an iris that I would be happy to have in my garden.


Although I have named ten irises, I will tell you about one more for good measure. Last year I obtained several species irises from Joe Pye Weed, which is operated by Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks. Among my purchases were a couple of plants of elegant *Iris gracilipes*. My wife potted the plants of *Iris gracilipes* and grew them in her bonsai collection. This spring the plants produced multiple flowers on beautifully branched stalks for a month before the AIS convention. When we returned from Memphis, these irises were still in bloom and continued in bloom for two additional weeks. If you have a woodland type setting with ample moisture and good drainage, do not overlook this special little iris. Be sure to order it for early spring planting, however, because it often fails when divided and moved later in the year.

And now for the lily! Judith Freeman, who lives in Vancouver, Washington, has hybridized a new race of lilies that she calls "Orienpets." These lilies come from crossing the beautiful Oriental lilies with the hardier Trumpets and Aurelian hybrids. I have been growing several different varieties, and find them splendid garden

plants. Back when it was first introduced, I purchased one bulb of 'Scheherazade' for \$30.00 (it now sells for \$6.00). The performance of this one lily led to my ordering many more bulbs. This variety has deep red recurved flowers that are edged in gold. The plants are well over 6 feet tall, and in Virginia 'Scheherazade' blooms through the month of July.

Soon after it was introduced, 'Scheherazade' won the American Lily Society popularity poll and did so several times running. It is now in the "Hall of Fame" of that society. Every year my wife and I cut several stalks to use as cut flowers. One stalk makes a bouquet all by itself. It will last more than 3 weeks in a vase. Last year I counted forty-four buds on one stalk, and forty-six buds on another. Every bud opens!

If you would rather have a velvety rose-red lily, the cultivar 'Arabesque' is recommended. It is a little shorter than 'Scheherazade,' but it is exquisite. Judith's nursery is The Lily Garden, 4902 NE 147th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98682-6067, or you can go to her web page at www.thelilygarden.com. Her catalogue has pictures in color of the lily varieties that are listed. I do not know Judith personally, but I do know she has given the gardening world something extraordinary and beautiful.

I recommend lilies be planted in the fall. Best to plant lilies when your reblooming irises are putting on an autumn performance. What! You are not growing reblooming irises? Well, if Keith Chadwick can hybridize reblooming irises in Idaho and Chuck Chapman can breed them in Ontario, there really is no reason that you cannot grow rebloomers and enjoy some fall bloom. For some reason, I always recommend the cultivar CLARENCE as a good iris with which to start your rebloomer collection. Oops! That's twelve irises. 

Stone Garden photo T. Aitken

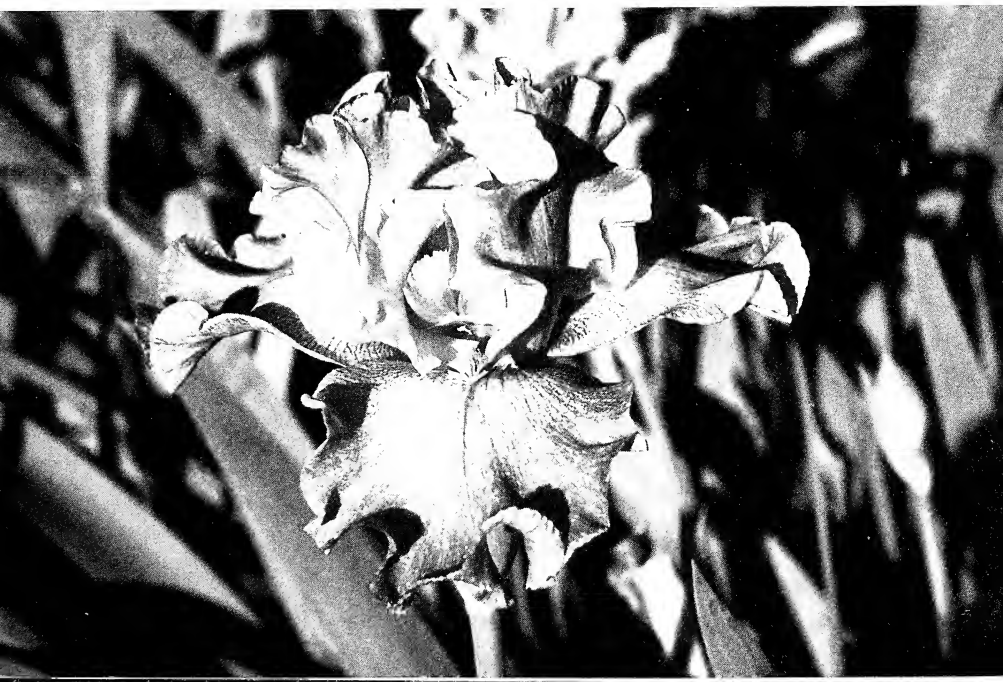




Both Photos: T. Aitken

GLACIER POINT (Tasco)

Baumunk Seedling #673Q





Above: Memphis Botanic
Garden Iris planting

Right: Madlinger Garden
entrance



Photo: Filardi



POPULAR IBs AT NATIONAL:

Above: DEVIL MAY CARE (P. Black)

Left: DEVILISH NATURE (C. Boswell)

Both photos: T. Aitken

AIS

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GIFTS

*Clark Cosgrove Youth Achievement Award

So. California Iris Society (CA) CCYA 

RENT SLIDE SETS FROM THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

The American Iris Society Slide Set Menu

Reliable Iris of the 1980s

Reliable Iris of the 1990s

Irises of the Fabulous Nineties

Irises of the Millennium

2001 Introductions

2002 Introductions

Beardless Irises

Beautiful, But Little Known Iris

Median Bearded Iris - (MDB, MTB, SDB, BB, IB)

Reblooming Iris

Unique and Novel Irises

Japanese Iris

Louisiana Iris

Siberian Iris

Arils

Spuria Iris

Subgenus scorpis - (juno)

Iris Trivia: This is a small set with questions that can be used for fun and informative meetings. It takes about an hour (per set average), using the slides, asking the questions and getting audience response. E-mail for further details.

The Family Iris: This set is an introduction to the world of iris. It shows the different classes of bearded iris and the different species of iris. It can be used for all levels of viewers, new to experienced iris growers. Great for garden club programs

Hunt Valley, MD, Convention 2001

Dykes Medal Winners

Dr. Loomis Memorial Iris Trial Gardens – Videos: 1998 - 1999 - 2000 - 2001

To Order: Requests for slide sets should be made well in advance, preferably four to six weeks. Please request alternate choices. Clearly print your name, address, phone number, and date of meeting if you mail your request by regular mail.

If you have an emergency situation and need slides immediately, **CALL ME!**
I prefer that you order using e-mail. <AISslides@aol.com>

Only one set is allowed per request date. Slides are to be returned by Priority Mail the day after viewing.

Cost: The rental fee is \$10, payable to AIS, and mailed to the Slides Chair, Bill Mull, at the address listed in the front of the Bulletin (page 4). Affiliate Chapters are entitled to one free set per year.

SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE:

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

Arils and Arilbreds: Order from Scott Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to Aril Society International.

Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society. Rental fee \$7.50.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to HIPS.

Japanese: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

Louisiana: Lynn Finkel, 21015 NE 220th Circle, Battle Ground, WA 98604. \$10 check to SLI.

Medians: Contact Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St, Vancouver WA 98685. \$10 check to MIS.

Pacific Coast Native: Contact Damon Hill, 4613 Maddock Rd, Sebastopol, CA 95472-9768. Rental fee \$7.50 to SPCNI. 3 sets available: Species, Hybrids or combo.

Rebloomers: Contact Olive Rice-Waters, P.O. Box 1944, Oregon City, OR 97045. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

Siberians: Order from Robert Hollingworth, 124 Sherwood Rd E, Williamston, MI 48895. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

Species: Several sets available. Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave, Sudbury MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

Spurias: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

AIS Bulletin Back Issues

\$5.00	10 Bulletins	\$8.00	40 Bulletins
\$6.00	20 Bulletins	\$9.00	50 Bulletins
\$7.00	30 Bulletins	\$10.00	60 Bulletins

Ideal to hand out at shows, sales and other activities. Shipped in packs of 10. Price includes postage and handling. Make check payable to American Iris Society. Order this special offer separately from regular Storefront orders, directly from:

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AIS Storefront

Sale Items & Publications

The World of Irises

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Quantity discounts: 20% off for 10 or more / 40% off for 100 or more

Handbook for Judges and Show Officials

New release! Sixth Edition ©1998. \$15.00

Basic Iris Culture. Booklets. Great information for new iris growers. Ideal for clubs or shows. \$1.50 ea., or 25 for \$15.00 domestic/\$20.00 overseas

Convention Handbook. Free

AIS Bulletins: Back Issues (not all issues available).

\$2.00 ea. domestic/\$4.50 ea. overseas

Check Lists: 1939, 1949, 1959, 1969, & 1979.

Reprint. Soft cover. \$14.00 ea. domestic/\$20.00 ea. overseas

Check Lists: 1989 or 1999

Hard cover. Ten-year compilation of registrations.

\$17.00 ea. domestic/\$25.00 ea. overseas

Registrations and Introductions: 2001.

\$7.00 ea. domestic/\$10.00 ea. overseas

Registrations and Introductions: 2000.

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Registrations and Introductions:

Years 1984, 1985, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999.

Clearance Sale: \$2.00 each!

View Before You Buy!

The official AIS Website now has photos of several of the Storefront sales items, so you can see what they look like.

Go to: www.irises.org

75th Anniversary Commemorative Medal

Solid Silver, 1½ inches across. Only 500 struck. \$25.00

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\$6.00 each, or \$33.00 domestic/\$40.00 overseas for packs of 10

Iris Post Cards (16 per pack)

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\$10.00, 3 packs

\$25.00, 10 packs

AIS can now accept VISA & Mastercard (sorry, no other charge cards) for Storefront orders (minimum order: \$10.00). When charging your order, please include card type and number, expiration date, phone number, and signature.

Prices include postage and handling. The Storefront ships via media mail. Priority, overnight and UPS shipment charges paid by customer. Make checks payable to The American Iris Society, or include charge card information. Send order to:

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By Willam Shear

176 pages, 163 color photos.

In this book William Shear, a 40-year veteran of iris growing, shares his expertise in choosing, planting, growing and propagating exquisite irises of many types. Cultural advice for the most desirable and adaptable iris types allows the gardener to choose the irises best suited to his region of the country.

Single copy: \$17.00 domestic/\$25.00 overseas, postpaid

Affiliates & Sections, 10 or more copies: \$14.00 domestic/\$20.00 overseas each, postpaid.

AIS Insurance Coverage

by Michelle Snyder, Insurance Chair

As many of you may already know, AIS has a new insurance carrier. It has taken a long time but we finally have the type of policy that will provide the broadest coverage possible. I have broken out the most important changes and have provided a brief explanation. If anyone has a specific question that is not answered below, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at (818) 352-7018, or via email at <sammygiz@aol.com>

INSURED

The named insured is the American Iris Society. However, the policy lists as additional insureds: All Regions, Sections, Affiliates and all members thereof.

This means that everyone who is a member of a Region, Section or Affiliate is covered under the policy, even if they are not members of AIS.

AMOUNT OF LIABILITY COVERAGE

The policy has primary coverage of \$1,000,000 and an additional \$4,000,000 under what is known as an Umbrella policy.

This \$5,000,000 in coverage should meet the needs of the clubs in New York and California where various venues are now demanding this amount of coverage.

WHAT IS COVERED

As respects *property*, all computer equipment that was purchased by the AIS for the use of certain board members is covered. In addition, the merchandise at the Storefront and items at the AIS Library are covered.

As respects *liability*, the policy automatically covers all general meetings and board meetings. Local one and two day shows and sales are also automatically covered and need certificates of insurance only when the venue requests to be named as an additional insured on the policy. JT's, if held during a regular business meeting are automatically covered. JT's at an outside garden would not need a certificate, since only "insureds" attend the JT, unless the venue asked to be named as an additional insured.

WHO CAN MAKE A LIABILITY CLAIM UNDER THE POLICY

This question comes up all the time. The policy *IS NOT* for the benefit of any insured. It protects the insured against a claim brought by a third party. Examples of a third party would be a guest at one of the meetings who falls and injures himself and brings a claim against the club, or a shopper at a mall who falls during a show/sale.

Once again, it is very important that everyone understand that the purpose of liability insurance is to protect the insured against claims made by outside parties. The policy *DOES NOT* cover any injury to an insured.

CERTIFICATES OF INSURANCE

Whenever a venue asks to be named as an additional insured or for proof of insurance, these are the steps that need to be taken.

Call 1-800-457-2379. You will get a recorded message giving you various options. Press #3, insured, and then you will hear another message. Press #1 and you will be transferred to a representative who will help you. You will need to identify yourself as the insured, The American Iris Society, and provide them with the insurance policy number of 72SBAAB0649. You will then need to give them the name and address of the venue where your event is being held, the date(s) of the event and where you want the certificate sent. If you want it faxed directly to the venue you will need to provide the name of the individual and their fax number.

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS CERTIFICATE.

(This is a major change from the previous policy where the carrier was charging \$50 a day for coverage.)

Again, if anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

AIS Bulletin Ad Rates

"Without advertising, a terrible thing happens... nothing!"

Ad Submission Requirements

To place an ad, please contact the advertising editor. All ads must have a hard copy submitted to the advertising editor. List of specifications regarding digital submissions is available. Payment is due with ad copy. The deadlines for ad submissions are as follows: September 1 (October issue); December 1 (January issue), March 1 (April issue), June 1 (July issue). Send ad and payment (payable to AIS) to: Harold Peters, 2048 Hickok Rd, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762; (916)933-3804; Fax: (916)933-0878; email: <Harold@directcon.net>.

Shopping Section

Found in the back of each Bulletin. Placement is roughly alphabetical. Rate is for 4 issues. All ads are 2½ inch wide.

\$42.00	1 15/16 inch
\$58.00	1 15/16 inch
\$73.00	2 15/16 inch

Display Advertising

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\$35.00	1 inch	1 x 4¼
\$46.00	¼ page	1⅞ x 4¾ (wide), or 3¾ x 2½ (tall)
\$58.00	⅓ page	2½ x 4¾ (wide), or 7½ x 1½ (tall)
\$81.00	½ page	3¾ x 4¾ (wide), or 7½ x 2½ (tall)
\$104.00	⅔ page	5 x 4¾
\$115.00	¾ page	5⅞ x 4¾
\$138.00	Full page	7½ x 4¾

Color:

\$115.00	½ page, interior page.
\$193.00	Full page, interior page.
\$175.00	Full page, interior page, 4 consecutive issue discount.
\$280.00	Full page, inside back cover.
\$297.00	Full page, inside front cover.
\$350.00	Full page, outside back cover.

Bulletin of the AIS Shopping Section

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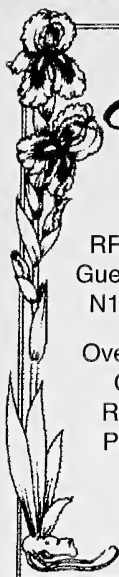
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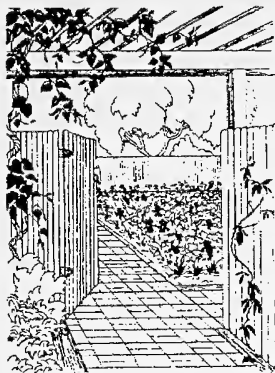


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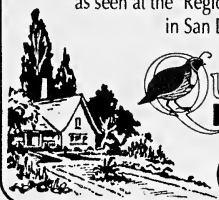
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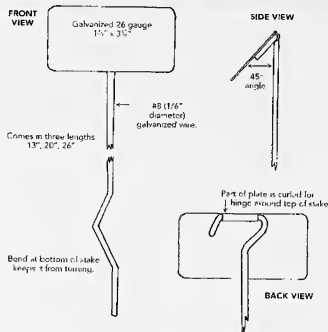
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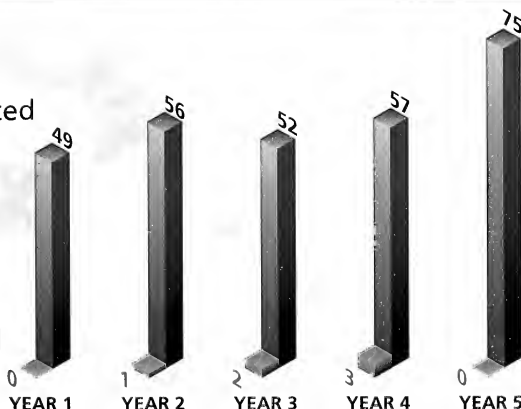
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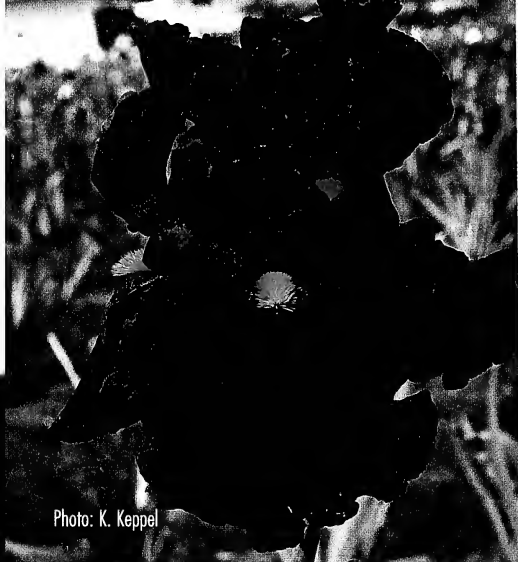


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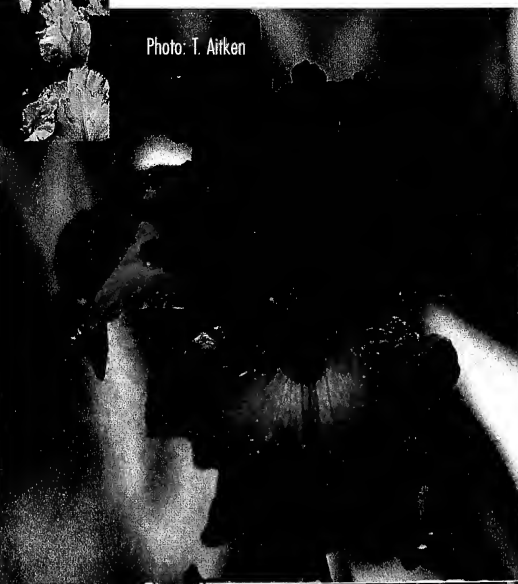


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